
CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Corporate Affairs Committee was held on 26 November 2004.

PRESENT: Councillor Clark (Chair), Councillors Biswas and Porley.

OFFICIALS: J Bennington, A Coxon, C Davies and P Slocombe.

****PRESENT BY INVITATION:** R Woodley (District Audit).

**** APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were submitted on behalf of Councillors J A Jones and Mrs H Pearson.

**** DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made at this point of the meeting.

**** MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Affairs Committee held on 17 November 2004 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2003/2004

The Director of Resources submitted a report, which sought approval to the audited 2003/2004 Statement of Accounts.

Extracts from the audited Statement of Accounts providing details of the main accounting financial statements were provided in the appendices to the report. A corrected Appendix B in respect of the Statement of Accounts, Consolidated Balance Sheet had subsequently been circulated.

It was confirmed that a copy of the signed accounts would be made available to all Members of the Council once the document had been signed by the District Auditor.

Following the audit process the Committee was advised that whilst the Council's net position remained unchanged in terms of the underspend of £260,000 in 2003/04 across the services a number of changes as detailed in the report had been made to the draft accounts previously presented and agreed by the Committee at its meeting held on 25 August 2004.

Mr R Woodley (District Audit) confirmed that the closure of accounts timetable would have to be brought forward by one month in 2005 in order to comply with the revised legislation.

ORDERED as follows: -

1. That the revised 2003/2004 Statement of Accounts be approved.
2. That the report of the District Auditor outlined in Appendix E of the report submitted be noted.
3. That it be noted that the audited Statement of Accounts next year would require Council approval by the end of July 2005 in order to comply with the legislation.
4. That in order to comply with recommendation 3 above a more robust timetable for the statement of accounts be developed which allows sufficient time for appropriate quality checks prior to the completion of the draft Statement of Accounts.