

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

MINUTES of the meeting of the COUNCIL URGENCY COMMITTEE, which was open to the press and public, held at LEWISHAM TOWN HALL, CATFORD, SE6 4RU on TUESDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2007 at 6.30 p.m.

Present

The Mayor, Sir Steve Bullock, Councillors Anderson, Peake and Johnson.

Apologies for absence were received from the Deputy Mayor.

<u>Minute No.</u>	<u>Action</u>
1.	<p>ELECTION OF CHAIR</p> <p>RESOLVED that Councillor Barrie Anderson be elected Chair for the Municipal Year 2007/08</p>
2.	<p>ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR</p> <p>RESOLVED that Councillor Heidi Alexander be elected Vice-Chair for the Municipal Year 2007/08</p>
3.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS (page</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
4.	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 28 June 2006, be confirmed and signed.</p>
5.	<p>APPROVAL OF AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2006/07</p> <p>Ms Eldridge, the District Auditor's representative presented the Annual Governance Report. She highlighted adjustments to the financial statements particularly those concerning the St. John's Estate and Silwood. She praised the Council's accounting practices. and confirmed the District Auditor had no concerns regarding the council's systems of internal control. She indicated the Value for Money conclusion remained unchanged from last year and a qualified opinion would be issued owing to remaining concerns about perceived deficiencies of internal audit systems.</p> <p>The Director for Resources representative tabled notes of a meeting of the Audit Panel held on September 20 which had examined the 2006/07 Accounts. Although the meeting had been declared inquorate 15 minutes after the scheduled start time, the Accounts item was subsequently considered by three</p>

elected members and all three independent members. He responded to the points made by the District Auditor and answered committee members questions. He indicated a summary of the accounts would be included in an Annual Report to be made available to the public in accordance with CIPFA good practice guidelines. The Director for Resources also outlined measures which had been put in place to enhance internal audit prior to the next District Audit inspection scheduled for early 2008.

RESOLVED that:

1. the Audit Commission Annual Governance Report be received; and
2. the Chair of Council be authorised to sign the Statement of Accounts 2006/07 and that officers be authorised to arrange for their publication.

The meeting ended at 7.02 p.m.

Chair