

## **Corporate Governance Committee – 30 September 2008**

Present: Councillor Williams (Chairman)  
Councillors Beaven, Coles, Denington, Wedderkopp and  
Mrs Whitmarsh

Officers: Ms S Adam (Strategic Director)  
Mr P Carter (Financial Services Manager)  
Mrs G Croucher (Democratic Services Officer)

Also Present: Councillor Meikle, Mr B Bethall and Mr T Bowditch (Audit Commission)  
and Mr D Wilson (Independent Members of the Standards Committee)

(The meeting commenced at 5.15 pm)

### **29. Apologies/Substitution**

Apologies: Councillor Henley (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Brockwell,  
Govier, Paul and Mrs Smith

Substitution: Councillor Coles for Councillor Mrs Smith.

### **30. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2008 were taken as read  
and were signed.

### **31. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Coles declared a personal interest as a Director of Southwest One.

### **32. Annual Governance Report**

Mr Brian Bethell and Mr Terry Bowditch of the Audit Commission (AC)  
introduced Taunton Deane Borough Council's Annual Governance Report  
2007/2008.

Details of the key areas of judgement and audit risk were reported, together  
with weaknesses identified in internal control. The weaknesses included the  
testing of key controls in the Council Tax system.

A number of errors that had been identified in the financial statements were  
reported. The accounts had been adjusted and a revised financial statement  
would be presented to the Committee.

The draft Management Representation Letter was presented for the approval  
of Members.

The Value for Money Conclusion for the year 2007/2008 would be issued shortly with an unqualified conclusion on the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources.

**Resolved** that:-

1. Approval be given to sign the Letter of Representation;
2. The proposed action plan be agreed, subject to the necessary priorities being completed in due course; and
3. It be brought to this Committee's attention in future when work was slipping due to lack of resources or sickness.

**33. Statement of Accounts 2007/2008 – Conclusion of Audit**

Considered report previously circulated, concerning corrections to the annual Statement of Accounts for 2007/2008.

The draft Statement of Accounts for 2007/2008 had been approved by the Corporate Governance Committee on 26 June 2008 to be followed by an external audit of the Accounts. The audit had recently been completed and a number of "minor" errors had been identified.

Details of the amended accounts were submitted.

**Resolved** that the amended Statement of Accounts for 2007/2008 be approved.

(The meeting ended at 5.55 p.m.)