

AUDIT COMMITTEE

AC(2) 01-04(min)

MINUTES

Date: 15 January 2004
Time: 9.30am to 12.30am
Venue: Committee Rooms 3 & 4, National Assembly for Wales,

Cardiff Bay

Members

Janet Davies (Chair)
Leighton Andrews
Mick Bates
Alun Cairns
Jocelyn Davies
Christine Gwyther
Denise Idris-Jones
Mark Isherwood
Val Lloyd
Carl Sargeant

Attendance

South Wales West
Rhondda
Montgomeryshire
South Wales West
South Wales East
Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire
Conwy
North Wales
Swansea East (not items 4 & 5)
Alyn and Deeside

Witnesses

Sir Jon Shortridge (item 2) Permanent Secretary and Principal Accounting Officer,
National Assembly for Wales
David Richards (item 2) Principal Finance Officer, National Assembly for Wales
Brendon Hilbourne (item 2) Head of Private Sector Unit, Housing Directorate, National
Assembly for Wales
Ann Lloyd (item 3) Director, NHS Directorate, National assembly for Wales
Allan Coffey (item 3) Chief Executive of Monmouthshire Local Health Board
Andy Williams (item 3) Chief Executive of Powys Local Health Board

Officials

Sir John Bourn Auditor General for Wales
Lew Hughes Deputy Auditor General for Wales
Gillian Body National Audit Office
Mike Usher National Audit Office
Ceri Thomas Assembly Compliance Office

Secretariat

Item 1: Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest.

1.1 The Chair said that she had been Leader of Taf Ely Borough Council and Vice-chair of the Housing Committee during the period described in Case Study C of the report, *Renewal of Private Sector Housing in Wales*. She said that neither she, nor her husband, had ever applied for a repair grant of any description.

Item 2: Renewal of Private Sector Housing in Wales

Paper: AC(2) 01-04(p1)

2.1 The Committee took evidence from Sir Jon Shortridge, Permanent Secretary, National Assembly for Wales, David Richards, Principal Finance Officer, National Assembly for Wales and Brendon Hilbourne, Head of the Private Sector Unit, Housing Directorate, National Assembly for Wales, in connection with the report by the National Audit Office on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales on 'Renewal of Private Sector Housing in Wales

2.2 A verbatim transcript will be attached as Annex 1 to these minutes.

Action

The Permanent Secretary agreed to provide the following:

- a note on the number of people able to stay in their own homes as a result of receipt of disabled facilities grants.
- a note comparing the proportion of upheld complaints to the Ombudsman in respect of housing grants with the proportion seen in other categories of complaint.

The Committee adjourned from 11:01 until 11:16.

Item 3: Further examination of matters arising from the disposal of the Mid Wales Hospital

Paper: AC(2) 01-04(p2)

3.1 The Committee took evidence from Ann Lloyd, Director of the NHS Directorate in the National Assembly, Allan Coffey, Chief Executive of Monmouthshire Local Health Board and Andy Williams, Chief Executive of Powys Local Health Board, in connection with the Memorandum by the Auditor General for Wales, 'Further examination of matters arising from the disposal of the Mid Wales Hospital'.

3.2 A verbatim transcript will be attached as Annex 2 to these minutes.

Action

The Director of the NHS Directorate agreed to provide:

- a note on the actions the Director of the NHS Directorate was taking to improve the management of the NHS estate in Wales.

Item 4: Minutes of the previous meeting

Paper: AC(2) 05-03(min)

4.1 The Committee approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

Item 5: PRIVATE SESSION - Audit Committee's draft report on 'Compensating Farmers for Bovine Tuberculosis in Wales'

Paper: AC(2) 01-04(p3)

5.1 The Committee resolved to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 8.21(vi).

5.2 The Committee considered and approved its draft report.

Committee Secretariat

January 2004