

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

AC-02-03(min)

### MINUTES

**Date:** 27 February 2003  
**Time:** 14.00pm  
**Venue:** Committee Room 2, National Assembly for Wales,  
Cardiff Bay

#### Attendance

##### Members

Dafydd Wigley (Chair)	Caernarfon
Eleanor Burnham	North Wales
Janet Davies	South Wales West
Janice Gregory	Ogmore
Elin Jones	Ceredigion
Ann Jones	Vale of Clwyd
Val Lloyd	Swansea East

##### Witnesses

Steve Martin	Chief Executive, NCETW
Richard Hirst	Director of Finance, NCETW

##### Officials

Sir John Bourn	Auditor General for Wales
Gillian Body	National Audit Office
Ceri Thomas	National Audit Office
Claire Bennett	Committee Clerk
Olga Lewis	Deputy Committee Clerk

#### 14.00 – 14.02

##### Item 1

##### **Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest.**

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Alison Halford, Alun Cairns and Jocelyn Davies. Elin Jones substituted for Jocelyn Davies.

1.2 Val Lloyd AM made a declaration of interest in relation to Item 2 of the agenda, as before joining the Assembly in October 2002 she had been a governor of Swansea College. The committee members noted the declaration and were happy for the meeting to continue.

## **14.02 – 14.07**

### **Item 2**

#### **Management of the Further Education Estate in Wales**

##### **Paper: AC 02-03(p1)**

2.1 The committee took evidence from Mr Steve Martin and Mr Richard Hirst from the National Council for Education and Training Wales (NCETW) in connection with the report by the National Audit Office on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales on 'Management of the Further Education Estate in Wales'.

## **14.07 – 16.19 (Break: 15.20 – 15.39)**

### **Item 2 (continued)**

#### **Management of the Further Education Estate in Wales**

2.2 A verbatim transcript of this item will be attached as Annex A to these minutes.

#### **Action points**

- It was agreed that a note would be provided detailing any discussion of the report on “Management of the Further Education Estate in Wales” at the board of the National Council for Education and Training Wales.
- It was agreed that a summary, setting out how ELWa's new funding and planning system will operate, would be provided.
- It was agreed that the report issued by the National Audit Office’s Consultants, GVA Gimley, would be made available to the National Council for Education and Training Wales.
- It was agreed that the National Council for Education and Training Wales would consider whether it wished to supply any additional information comparing the indicators used in higher education and those proposed for further education.

## **16.19 –17.21**

### **Item 3**

#### **Papers to note**

**Paper: AC 02-03(p2)** - Cabinet response to Committee report 'The Renewal and Disposal of Property held by the National Health Service in Wales'

**Paper: AC 02-03(p3)** Auditor General for Wales' assessment of the Cabinet response to the Audit Committee report 'The Renewal and Disposal of Property held by the National Health Service in Wales'

3.1 The Chair invited the Auditor General for Wales, Sir John Bourn, to comment on the Cabinet response to the Audit Committee report 'The Renewal and Disposal of Property held by the National Health Service in Wales'. The Auditor General noted that

the response was positive and that the National Audit Office would be monitoring to ensure that the Government delivered on recommendations.

3.2 The Committee also welcomed the response and endorsed the proposed course of action.

#### **16.21 – 16.22**

##### **Item 4: Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

4.1 The committee approved the minutes of the last meeting that was held on 23 January.

#### **16.22 – 16.25**

##### **Item 5**

##### **PRIVATE SESSION**

##### **Draft Committee Annual report and end of session report**

**Paper:** AC 02-03(p4)

5.1 The committee resolved to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting, to consider its draft reports on the above investigation, in accordance with Standing Order 8.21(vi):

*A Committee may resolve to exclude the public from a meeting or any part of a meeting where:*

*(vi) the committee is deliberating on the conclusions or recommendations of a report it proposes to publish; or is preparing itself to take evidence from any person.*

5.2 The committee agreed the draft report.

5.3 The next meeting of the committee would be on 27 March 2003 and would begin at 9:00.

5.1 The meeting closed at 4.25pm.