

LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

**AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES
5 JULY 2018**

Members Present: Frances Button (Chairman) Claudia Webbe
John Bevan John Wyllie
Simon Walsh

Apologies Received From: Christine Hamilton

Also Present: Debbie Hanson and Pamela Hillie - Ernst & Young (External Auditors)

Officers Present: Simon Sheldon - Director of Finance & Resources
Beryl Foster - Director of Corporate Services
Keith Kellard - Finance & Systems Accountant
Lindsey Johnson - Committee Services Officer

Part I

143 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

144 PUBLIC SPEAKING

No requests from the public to speak or present petitions had been received for this meeting.

145 EXTERNAL AUDITORS' AUDIT RESULTS REPORT - Paper AUD/93/18
2017/18 ACCOUNTS

A letter of representation from Debbie Hansen of Ernst & Young was tabled.

The report was introduced by the Director of Finance & Resources.

Debbie Hansen from Ernst & Young introduced her report informing Members that she is satisfied and able to give unqualified assurance for the accounts.

The Chairman thanked both officers and Ernst & Young for completing the accounts in such a short timescale.

A Member asked if the audit fee will remain as predicted. Debbie Hansen replied that it would be as expected.

A Member asked how long Debbie Hansen had worked with the Authority and whether she was beginning to become too close. The Director of Finance & Business Resources responded stating that we have signed a public sector audit appointment, Ernst & Young have worked with us for 5 years and there would be a new phase from next year and that auditors are rotated. Debbie Hansen also stated that there is an audit review for each partner.

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- (1) **the 2017/18 External Auditors' Audit Results Report for the Authority as set out in Appendix A to Paper AUD/93/18 was noted.**

146 DRAFT UNAUDITED FINAL ACCOUNTS 2017/18

Paper AUD/92/18

The report was introduced by the Director of Finance & Resources stating that the Authority and Ernst & Young are happy with the accounts and we will sign them off today, he also thanked Keith Kellard for his hard work in getting them completed

A Member asked why there is such a short timescale to get the accounts done and asked if it cost us additional money. The Director of Finance & Resources responded stating that the reason for the short timescale is that it is part of the audit regulations which we have to comply with just like other local government organisations and the shorter timescale does not cost us any additional money.

- (1) **that any Member comments/amendments can be considered and approved by the Director of Finance & Resources in conjunction with the Chair of the Audit Committee and incorporated into the final Draft Accounts was approved; and**
- (2) **that the Statement of Accounts for 2017/18 summarised in this report (and available electronically as Appendix A to Paper AUD/92/18) will be signed off by the Director of Finance & Resources by 31 July 2018, subject to any comments/amendments received from Members was noted.**

Chairman

Date

The meeting started at 3.20pm and ended at 3.35pm