

**AWDURDOD TÂN AC ACHUB CANOLBARTH A GORLLEWIN  
CYMRU**



**MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**COFNODION  
CYFARFOD YR GRŴP MODEREIDDIO**

**MINUTES  
OF THE MEETING OF THE MODERNISATION GROUP**

**DYDD LLUN, 9 HYDREF 2006  
MONDAY 9 OCTOBER 2006**

**PENCADLY GWASANAETH TÂN,  
HEOL LLWYN PISGWYDD, CAERFYRDDIN  
FIRE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS,  
LIME GROVE AVENUE, CARMARTHEN**

**PRESENOLDEB/ATTENDANCE**

Presennol yn y Cyfarfod/Present at Meeting:

CADEIRYDD/CHAIRMAN: Mrs P Spender

AELODAU/MEMBERS: Cyng/Cllrs: C J Crowley, T E Evans,  
B J Hall, D R James, T Theophilus  
J D A Thompson

YMDDIHEURIADAU/APOLOGIES: Cyng/Cllrs: J S Allen-Mirehouse

## **1 TO APPOINT A CHAIR FOR THE 2006/07 MUNICIPAL YEAR**

Councillor Mrs P Spender was nominated and duly seconded. There were no other nominations.

Upon being put to the vote,

***It was RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs P Spender be elected Chair for the Municipal year 2006/2007.***

## **2 DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF ANY PERSONAL INTERESTS**

None were declared

## **3 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE PROVISION OF INDEMNITIES TO MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

The Clerk reported that the ability of members and officers to take decisions and deliver services on behalf of the authority without the risk of personal liabilities where they had acted properly was fundamental to the effective operation of the authority. Following the publication of Assembly Regulations and specific guidance, a report had been produced which explained what indemnities could be given, what restrictions could apply, and made suggestions as to the form of indemnity which could be adopted by the Authority. The Clerk specifically drew Members attention to the form of Indemnity which was attached as an appendix to the report and which needed the specific approval of the Authority.

It was noted that the Standards Committee ha been consulted on the report and agreed its contents

### **RESOLUTION**

***It was RESOLVED that***

***i) The contents of the report be noted***

***ii) It be recommended to the Authority that the Form of Indemnity contained in Appendix 1 of the report be adopted.***

## **TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE FORWARD WORK PLAN 2006/07**

### ***Good Governance in local government***

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The Clerk updated members on the progress in producing a revised framework produced by CIPFA / SOLACE which would replace the previous 2001 guidance. It was reported that the new guidance was anticipated to be published in the Autumn of 2006 and was likely to cover:

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- The role of standards and audit committees
- Partnership arrangements

- Risk management
- The relationship of the framework with the “*Statement of Internal Control*”
- The relationship of the framework with the “*Good Governance Standard*”

Members were informed that a further meeting of the Modernisation Working Group would be convened in November once the new framework had been received.

### ***Wales Charter for Member Support and Development***

- ii Members were informed that at the Personnel Committee held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September, it had been resolved to pursue the Wales Charter for Member Support and Development which was an award developed by members and officers throughout Wales in conjunction with the WLGA. The award was presented to authorities in recognition of the support provided to Members in the four specific areas of constitutional arrangements, member development, member support services and member facilities.

It was proposed that the Modernisation Working Group take this work forward ensuring that the Authority met the requirements of the four specific areas. The Charter had been specially developed for Fire and Rescue Authorities so as to ensure that there was no duplication with the Charter for constituent authorities and that the particular needs of Fire and Rescue Authorities were fully taken into consideration. It was proposed that at the next meeting of the Modernisation Group, Members considered in detail the Authority approach and actions with any supporting information required. Consideration should also be given to signing a statement of intent to apply for the Charter.

### **RESOLUTION**

***It was RESOLVED that***

***The forward work plan be approved and that a meeting be arranged in November in order to consider the reports further and to take action as appropriate.***