

Audit Committee - 2nd February 2006

Joint Report of the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance

Annual Audit and Inspection Letter 2005

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter from the external auditors, the Audit Commission.

Background

2. The Audit Commission have produced a joint Annual Audit and Inspection Letter which incorporates their Annual Audit Letter
3. The Letter summarises the conclusions and significant issues arising from the Audit Commission's recent audit and inspections. It comments on the make-up of the Council's CPA score, and on governance and the accounts. It describes the framework of audit and refers to future audit work, and areas where it is anticipated that the Council focus attention.
4. Representatives of the Audit Commission will be in attendance at this meeting to present the Letter and to discuss its contents with members.
5. The Letter will be published, placed on the Council website, and paper copies made available at a charge of £1.00, as agreed in 2000/01.

Finance

6. The report deals with a number of financial affairs of the Council, and concludes that the financial position continues to be well managed. No additional resources are required as a direct consequence of the Letter.

Law

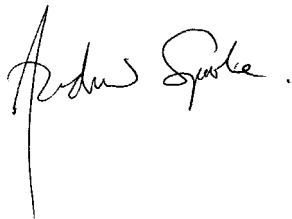
7. Legislation appertaining to Local Authority Audit and Accounts is contained in the Local Government Act 1972, part 2 of the Audit Commission Act, 1998, and regulations made thereunder.

Equality Impact

8. The proposal takes account of the Council's policy in relation to equal opportunities.

Recommendation

9. It is recommended that the Committee:-
- Note the views of the Auditor.
 - Comment on matters in the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter.
 - Refer the Letter to the Cabinet.



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Andrew Sparke
Chief Executive



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Mike Williams
Director of Finance

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List of Background Papers

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