

**Audit Committee – 29th June 2009**

**Joint Report of the Chief Executive and the Interim Director of Finance**

**Annual Audit and Inspection Letter 2008**

**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.
3. The Letter comments on the Council's Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) score, including the Use of Resources component. It describes areas where it is anticipated that the Council will focus attention. It summarises the conclusions and significant issues arising from the Audit Commission's recent audit and inspections.
4. The Letter was presented to Cabinet on 18th March 2009 and Messrs. G. Stevens and A. Corcoran from the Audit Commission attended and addressed the Cabinet on key messages, conclusions and significant issue. Cabinet resolved that the contents of the Letter and the views of the auditor be noted.
5. Representatives of the Audit Commission will be in attendance at this meeting to present the Letter and to discuss its contents with members.
6. The Letter has been published, placed on the Council website, and paper copies made available at a charge of £1.00, as agreed in 2000/01.

**Finance**

7. The report deals with a number of financial affairs of the Council. No additional resources are required as a direct consequence of the Letter.

**Law**

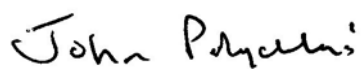
8. Legislation appertaining to Local Authority Audit and Accounts is contained in the Local Government Act 1972, part 2 of the Audit Commission Act, 1998, and regulations made thereunder.

## **Equality Impact**

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

## **Recommendation**

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



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**John Polychronakis**  
**Chief Executive**

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**Bill Baker**  
**Interim Director of Finance**

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**List of Background Papers**  
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