

Audit Committee – 10th April 2008

Joint Report of the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance

Annual Audit and Inspection Letter 2007

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. 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 notes the effective management of resources, and the very prompt production of last year's (2006/07) accounts. No additional resources are required as a direct consequence of the Letter.

Law

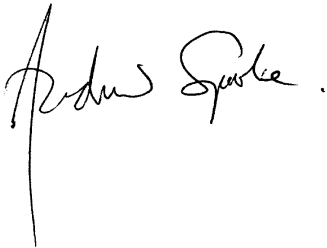
7. Legislation appertaining to Local Authority Audit and Accounts is contained in the Local Government Act 1972, part 2 of the Audit Commission Act, 1998, and regulations made thereunder.

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

Contact Officer: Mike Williams
Telephone: 01384 814800
Email: mike.s.williams@dudley.gov.uk

List of Background Papers

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