

**REPORT OF DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE & CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR RESOURCES**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE PROVISIONAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2012/13**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

This report outlines the provisional Work Programme for 2012/13.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Audit Committee (the Committee) notes the provisional 2012/13 Work Programme set out at **Appendix 1**.

**3. REASONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 An Audit Committee is central to the provision of effective corporate governance, which depends on a systematic strategy, clear framework and processes for managing risk. Good governance helps to maintain and increase public confidence in the objectivity and fairness of the decision making process. It is important that local authorities have independent assurance about the mechanisms underpinning governance arrangements. As with Overview & Scrutiny Committees/Panels, and in accordance with CIPFA guidance, the Committee is politically balanced and does not have Executive councillor membership.
- 3.2 It recognised that high performing councils develop effective financial and non-financial control mechanisms through the ongoing liaison and development of expertise made available by the establishment of an Audit Committee, meeting on a regular cycle, and with terms of reference focussed on the key audit control and risk management areas critical to the Council's performance. The work of the Committee also supports the Council's aim to improve efficiency and effectiveness.
- 3.3 The Work Programme for 2012/13 attached at **Appendix 1** has been developed to ensure that the Committee's Terms of Reference are covered.

4. **BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION**

None

5. **PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT**

None

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