

REPORT OF DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE & CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR RESOURCES

AUDIT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11 UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report outlines and seeks endorsement for changes to the Audit Committee Annual Work Programme 2010/11 (the Programme) and provisional Programme for 2011/12.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Audit Committee (the Committee) endorses the updated 2010/11 Programme and also notes the provisional 2011/12 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 partly depends on a systematic strategy, clear framework and processes for managing risk. Good governance also maintains and increases public confidence in the objectivity and fairness of financial and other reporting as well as helping to deliver improved services. It is important that local authorities have independent assurance about the mechanisms underpinning these aspects of governance. 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 Programme for 2010/11 was approved at the June 2010 meeting. This updated Programme has been developed to ensure topics on the original plan are presented to allow councillors to cover their remit, and to inform their opinion of the governance arrangements in place.
- 3.4 The proposed changes are intended to enhance the Committee's work and consideration should be given to whether the revised Programme supports this aim. The main changes to the programme are in respect of the :
- Rescheduling of items to fall into line with quarterly reporting cycles.
 - Exclusion of items now being reported as part of the Annual Governance Statement.
 - Additional items considering Bridge Estate Issues and Central Government Funding.

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

None

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

[ROLE OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE AND ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME](#) - Audit Committee 25 June 2010

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AUDIT COMMITTEE – ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11 UPDATE & PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME FOR 2011/12

REPORT TITLE	MEETING LEAD	17.12.10	25.02.11	April 2011	May 2011	June 2011	July 2011	Sept 2011	Nov 2011	Dec 2011	Feb 2012	Apr 2012
Audit Committee Training Activity	TK/SS											
Risk Management Training	KB											
Review/test the Council's Integrated Planning & Performance Framework	CME/KB											
Risk Management Annual Report 2009/10 (2010/11)	KB											
Risk Management Strategy/Framework	KB											
Risk Management Quarterly Report	KB											
Audit Committee Annual Report 2009/10 (2010/11)	Cllr Williams											
Audit Committee Annual Work Programme 2010/11 (2011/12) Update	CME/SS											
Internal Audit Annual Report & Audit Charter	CME/SS											
Internal Audit Annual Plan 2010/11 (2011/12)	CME/SS											
Internal Audit Quarterly Performance & Activity	TK/SS											
Internal Audit Reports Selected for Examination – quality control	SS											
Counter Fraud Strategy	CME/SS											
Corporate Governance and Annual Governance Statement	CME/TK/SS											
Annual Governance Statement 2009/10 (2010/11) – six-monthly update and progress	CME/SS											
Approve City Council 2009/10 (2010/11) Statement of Accounts – subject to audit	CME/TK/JA											
Approve City Council 2009/10 (2010/11) Statement of Accounts – following audit	CME/TK/JA											
Audit Commission Report to Those Charged with Governance	CME/TK/SS											
Audit Commission Audit Letter (AAL)	CME/KB											
Council's action plan arising from the AAL	CME/KB											
Audit Commission – specific and other inspectorate reports	AC											
Audit Commission – regular update/statement of audit progress	AC											
Standards Board Annual Report	GOC											
Whistle Blowing Policy & Activity Annual Report	GOC											
Ombudsman's Annual Letter & Action Plan	HC											
Treasury Management Strategy & Key Issues Update	TK/JA											
Grants Report Update	JA											
Accounts Payable Update	TK											
Bridge Estate Issues	TK											
Central Government Funding	JA											

Key

As required	
For approval	
Reviewing performance	
Training	