

Subject:	Assurances from the Audit Committee as the body charged with governance 2011/12		
Date of Meeting:	24th April 2012		
Report of:	Director of Finance		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Ian Withers	Tel: 29- 1323
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 This report presents the proposed Audit Committee response to the Audit Commission's letter to those charged with governance issued at the 20th December 2011, Audit Committee Meeting.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1 That the Audit Committee note the response to the Audit Commission's letter to those charged with governance which was sent on the 29th March 2012.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 At its meeting on the 20th December 2011 the Audit Committee was issued a letter from the Audit Commission with regard to the Audit of the Council's Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2012. The letter from the Audit Commission forms part of compliance with International Auditing Standards and it requires a response in writing.
- 3.2 Annually the Audit Commission write to those charged with governance asking a number of questions regarding governance and anti-fraud arrangements.
- 3.3 Councillor Hamilton responded to the Audit Commission last year on behalf of the Audit Committee and this response has been reviewed and updated to reflect current arrangements of the Council and additional questions asked.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The assurances from the Audit Committee support the audit of the 2011/12 financial statements.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley
Head of Business Engagement*

Date: 2nd April 2012

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 This report is for information only. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

*Lawyer Consulted: Sarita Arthur-Crow
Lawyer*

Date: 11th April 2012

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 No direct equalities implications.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 No direct sustainability implications.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 Fraud is a crime and can result in significant financial loss to the Council.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 An effective audit committee will ensure that the council has adequate arrangements for risk and opportunity management.

Public Health Implications:

- 5.7 No direct crime and disorder implications.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.8 No direct corporate/city wide implications.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Appendix 1 – Letter from those charged with governance