

AUDIT PANEL		
Report Title	PRE-AUDIT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2009/10	
Key Decision	YES	Item No. 4
Ward	ALL	
Contributors	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR RESOURCES	
Class	PART 1	Date: 24 JUNE 2010

1 SUMMARY AND PURPOSE

- 1.1 To receive a presentation from the Executive Director for Resources on the pre-audit Statement of Accounts 2009/10.
- 1.2 To review the pre-audit Statement of Accounts 2009/10 and the Annual Governance Statement.
- 1.3 To recommend that Council considers the pre-audit Statement of Accounts 2009/10 on 30 June 2010.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 To ensure that the Council complies with its statutory duty to approve its Final Accounts on or prior to the 30 June 2010 it is necessary for this Panel to consider the Accounts.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To recommend that Council approves the pre-audit Statement of Accounts 2009/10 on 30 June 2010 and following approval by Council the Accounts are passed to the Council's external auditors, the Audit Commission, for audit.

4 PRESENTATION

- 4.1 There have been a couple of major accounting changes to this years Accounts compared to the previous year. These changes involve the treatment of Private Finance Initiative (PFI) schemes and Council Tax and National Non-domestic Rates transactions.
- 4.2 A presentation at the meeting will explain these accounting changes, as well as identify and explain the main variances in the Accounts compared to the previous year. A hard copy of the presentation slides will be made available.

5 THE PRE-AUDIT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2009/10

- 5.1 The pre-audit Statement of Accounts will be sent out to all members of the Panel on 17 June 2010. As the Accounts have to be approved by Council they will also be sent to all Council members.
- 5.2 It is a requirement that the Pension Fund Accounts be considered by those charged with governance of the Pension Fund. It therefore should be noted that the pre-audit Pension Fund Accounts will be considered by the Pensions Investment Committee on 17 June 2010. The pre-audit Pension Fund Accounts will follow.

6 THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (AGS)

- 6.1 The requirement to produce an AGS was introduced in 2008, as a result of the CIPFA framework document – Delivering Good Governance in Local Government. The AGS replaced the Statement on Internal Control and extends beyond financial probity to include all aspects of the conduct of the Council's business.
- 6.2 A detailed internal audit of compliance has taken place in preparation for the 2009/10 AGS, and the evidence base has been refreshed and updated. Any gaps identified have been included in an action plan, which will be monitored throughout 2010/11 by the Internal Control Board and the AGS Working Party. As a result of the in-year review and the audit, 9 of the 14 original actions for 2009/10 have now been closed. The 2010/11 action plan has now been produced with consideration of delivery against the 2009/10 AGS action plan, the Audit Commission's Annual Letter, the Head of Audit and Risk's Annual Assurance Statement on Internal Control, and compliance with the CIPFA SOLACE guidance in relation to the development of the AGS. In addition to the remaining five actions from the 2009/10 action plan, two further actions have been added; to assess and monitor the impact of tight financial allocations to Local Government, and to strengthen the Council's arrangements for business continuity management.
- 6.3 There will be a separate briefing to the Panel on the AGS from the Head of Audit and Risk. After the AGS has been approved, it will be included in the pre-audit Statement of Accounts along with the AGS Action Plan as an appendix.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Title of Document	Date	File Location	Contact Officer	Exempt
Closing of Accounts files	June 10	1 st Floor, Town Hall	Richard Lambeth	
Evidence Schedule	June 10	1 st Floor, Town Hall	Stewart Snellgrove	

For further information on this report please contact:

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