

Agenda Item No:

Report to: Audit Committee

Date of Meeting: 18 March 2008

Report Title: Annual Audit and Inspection Letter

Report By: Neil Dart, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources

Purpose of Report

To present the Audit Commission's Annual Audit and Inspection Letter to the Audit Committee.

Recommendation(s)

1. To thank the Audit Commission's Relationship Manager for the positive and helpful report.
2. To agree with the actions proposed in paragraph 3 below.

Reasons for Recommendations

To further improve the Council's overall performance.

Background

1. Attached is the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter for 2006/07. It provides an overall summary of the Audit Commission's assessment of the Council for that period. Whilst the Letter is in respect of progress during 2006/07, it also comments on the latest performance in 2007/08, where necessary, to put the 2006/07 performance into context.

2. The main messages included in the report are:
- The Council is improving its services in line with its priorities and in those areas which matter to local people.
 - The way the Council uses its resources were scored as three out of four
 - The Council delivers good value for money.
3. The Letter recommends three key areas for the Council to take action, these being:-
- continue to focus attention on the weaker performing services, seeking improvement in performance and costs as part of its commitment to improve value for money;
 - strengthen its arrangements for financial reporting and internal control;
 - continue to take action to reduce the number of staff days lost through sickness absence.

I am happy to recommend the Committee accept these recommendations.

Wards Affected

None

Area(s) Affected

None

Policy Implications

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	No
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	No
Risk Management	Yes
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	Yes
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	Yes

Supporting Documents



Officer to Contact

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