

Agenda Item No:

Report to: Audit Committee

Date of Meeting: 29 September 2008

Report Title: External Audit Report - Final Accounts

Report By: Peter Grace
Head of Financial Services

Purpose of Report

To consider the matters raised by the Council's external auditors (PKF) in respect of their audit of the Council's 2007-8 accounts.

Recommendation(s)

1. That the audit report and action plan be noted

Reasons for Recommendations

The Council's external auditors are required to submit a report to the Council's Audit Committee on any matters that are identified during their audit. The report is known as the International Standards of Auditing (ISA) 260 report.

Background

It is not possible to produce the main report on the Internet due to the complex images it contains. If you require a copy, please contact Elaine Wood on 01424 451717, or email ewood@hastings.gov.uk

Audit and Inspection

1. The report provides details arising from the audit carried by the External Auditors, who at the time of writing this report are expected to give an unqualified opinion on the Council's accounts on 29 September 2008, in advance of the 30 September deadline.

2. The attached report summarises the principal matters arising from the audit carried out by PKF along with other areas that they are required to give an opinion on. The issues raised have been discussed with the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources and other appropriate Officers. Auditing standards require the External Auditors to report to those charged with governance certain matters before giving an opinion on the accounts.

3. Financial and Risk Management Implications

The action plan addresses the issues raised in the ISA260 report, these have no material implications for the Council.

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	No

Supporting Documents

External Audit report (ISA260) attached

Officer to Contact

Peter Grace
pgrace@hastings.gov.uk
01424 451503

