

Agenda Item No:

Report to: Audit Committee

Date of Meeting: 12 January 2010

Report Title: External Annual Audit Plan 2009/10

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

Purpose of Report

To consider the External Auditor's updated 2009/10 fee letter.

Recommendation(s)

- 1. That Members decide whether or not to agree the level of fees now requested.**

Reasons for Recommendations

Audit Committee have a role in determining external audit fee levels.

Introduction

1. Attached is an Annual Audit Plan 2009/10 that updates the 2009/10 fee letter issued by our External Auditors, PKF earlier in the year.
2. Robert Grant, a partner at PKF, will attend your meeting to explain the contents of the Plan.
3. Paragraphs 1.4 to 1.9 of the Plan explain that the Auditors are seeking additional fees of £7,500 and give reasons for the request.
4. If Members agree the new fee, the total external audit costs (excluding grant work) will increase from £96,400 to £100,900. A table in paragraph 4.1 of the Plan shows a breakdown of the figures.

Wards Affected

Ashdown, Baird, Braybrooke, Castle, Central St. Leonards, Conquest, Gensing, Hollington, Maze Hill, Old Hastings, Ore, Silverhill, St. Helens, Tressell, West St. Leonards, Wishing Tree

Area(s) Affected

Central Hastings, East Hastings, North St. Leonards, South St. Leonards

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	No
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	Yes
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	No

Background Information

External Annual Audit Plan 2009/10 - attached.

Officer to Contact

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Please note:-

External Annual Audit Plan 2009/2010 - Appendix A - Could not be published because of the complex tables that it contains. If required, a copy can be obtained by contacting: Emily Horne, Committee Administrator, Tel: 01424 451719 or by emailing: ehorne@hastings.gov.uk