

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

25 MARCH 2011

AUDIT COMMISSION AUDIT PLAN 2010/11

Report of Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

1.0 Purpose of the report

1.1 This report details the Audit Commission's (AC) Audit Plan which notifies the Council of the work that the AC is proposing to undertake in respect of the audit of the financial statements and the value for money conclusion for 2010/2011.

2.0 Audit Plan 2010/2011

2.1 The attached document advises on the nature of this work together with the scale of fee for the 2010/2011 audit and the assumptions that inform this charge to the Council.

2.2 It is welcomed that the Audit Commission has reviewed the fees it is intending to charge the Council for its audit services, to recognise the cuts in government grant funding to local government. This has meant that the fees stated on page 4 of the document as £332,522 (which were already £11,631 under the scale fees for a similar type of authority) have been further reduced to £300,585, a net reduction of £31,937.

2.3 The Audit Plan also identifies the specific areas for the planned audit work based upon a risk assessment process. These areas of work are set out in the attached document and have been discussed with officers.

2.4 An officer, Gavin Barker, of the Audit Commission, will be in attendance at the Audit and Governance Committee meeting in order to outline the content of the Plan and to answer any questions that may arise.

3.0 Description of Decision

3.1 The Committee is recommended to:

- Note the contents of this report
- Note the reduced audit fees for the work to be undertaken in 2010/2011, based on the Audit Commission's risk-based approach to audit planning.

Background Papers

Audit Commission: Audit Plan 2010/2011

