Audit Committee

Meeting to be held on 24 January 2011

Electoral Division affected: All

Internal Audit Progress Report

(Appendices A and B refer.)

Contact for further information: Ruth Lowry, (01772) 534898, Resources Directorate

Executive Summary

In the context of fulfilling its responsibility to monitor the adequacy and effectiveness of the internal Audit Service, the committee is asked to consider the Audit Service's progress report for the year to date (Appendix A) and the supporting information regarding resource inputs (Appendix B).

Recommendation

The Audit Committee is asked to consider the internal audit progress report for the nine months to 31 December 2010.

Background

The Audit Committee's terms of reference state that the head of internal audit will provide a progress report summarising the following, and this has been achieved as follows:

Matters to be included in the progress report	How these matters have been addressed
i) work performed (and a comparison with work planned);	Please see Appendices A and B to this report.
ii) key issues emerging from internal audit work;	The issues arising from the reports that have been finalised to date are reported in Appendix A to this report.
iii) management response to audit recommendations;	We have begun to follow up the matters raised in our audit work in previous years to confirm that agreed recommendations have been implemented, and our findings are reported in Appendix A.



Matters to be included in the progress report	How these matters have been addressed
iv) changes to the audit plan for the period; and	We are not proposing any significant changes to our audit plan but some minor adjustments have been made where work is no longer appropriate, and where the resource inputs and timing of some assignments have altered. Appendix B to this report shows progress against the original audit plan agreed in March 2010.
v) any resourcing issues affecting the delivery of Internal Audit objectives.	The Audit Service establishment is being reduced to contribute to the council's cost saving targets, and a small amount of planned work will therefore slip into the first quarter of 2011/12 but, subject to any significant sickness absences, the Audit Service's objectives and annual plan will be achieved.

Consultations

Not applicable.

Advice

Not applicable.

Alternative options to be considered

Not applicable.

Implications: e.g. financial, legal, personnel, human rights, crime and disorder or other.

None

Risk management

This report supports the Audit Committee in undertaking its role, which includes advising the Council on the adequacy of the Authority's strategic risk management processes.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper Date Contact Not applicable.

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate: Not applicable.