



| <u>Committee and date</u> |
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| Council |
| 22 nd July 2010 |
| 10.00 am |

| <u>Item No</u> |
|----------------|
| 18 |
| Public |

ANNUAL ASSURANCE REPORT TO COUNCIL 2009/10

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Summary

Attached to this report is the Audit Committee's Annual Assurance Report to Council for 2009/10.

Recommendations

Council are asked to consider and comment on the contents of the Annual Assurance report for 2009/10 before recommending to accept this report.

Report

Background

1. A key part of the Audit Committee's role is to provide independent assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework and the associated internal control environment. The Committee oversees the financial reporting process and it also provides independent scrutiny of the authority's financial performance to the extent that it effects the authority's exposure to risk and weakens the control environment.
2. The Audit Committee has a well established role within the Council and it is important that an Annual Assurance report based on the work of the Committee is produced and recommended to Council. In compiling this assurance report, information provided at the Audit Committee meeting on 18 June 2010 has also been taken into account.
3. Attached to this report is the draft Audit Committee Annual Assurance report to Council for 2009/10 for members to consider and comment on **(see Appendix A)**.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

None

Human Rights Act Appraisal

The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights act 1998

Environmental Appraisal

N/A

Risk Management Appraisal

The Audit Committee's annual assurance report is part of the overall internal control arrangements and Risk Management process.

Community / Consultations Appraisal

N/A

Cabinet Member

Keith Barrow, Leader of the Council and Brian Williams, Chairman of Audit Committee

Local Member

N/A

Appendices

Appendix A - Draft Audit Committee Annual Assurance Report 2009/10