DECISION-MAKER:		AUDIT COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:		INTERNAL AUDIT: STATUS OF WORK FEBRUARY 2008		
DATE OF DECISION:		27 th MARCH 2008		
REPORT OF:		CHIEF INTERNAL AUDITOR		
AUTHOR:	Name:	Sarah Dennis	Tel:	023 80 834255
	E-mail:	sarah.l.dennis@southampton.gov.uk		

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

None

SUMMARY

Under the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006, the Council is responsible for:

- ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of functions and includes arrangements for the management of risk; and
- maintaining an adequate and effective system of Internal Audit of its accounting records and of its system of internal control in accordance with the proper internal audit practices.

In accordance with proper internal audit practices and the Internal Audit Strategy, the Chief Internal Auditor is required to provide a written status report to the Audit Committee, summarising:

- progress in implementing the audit plan;
- internal audit reviews in progress;
- audit opinion on all internal audit reviews completed since the last report and executive summaries of published reports where critical weaknesses or unacceptable levels of risk were identified;
- the status of 'live' reports, i.e. those where internal audit work is completed and actions are planned to improve the framework of governance, risk management and management control; and
- internal audit reviews closed since the last report.

The appendix summarises the activities of internal audit for the period ending 28th February 2008.

RECOMMENDATION:

(i) That the Audit Committee notes the Internal Audit Status of Work report for the period ending 28th February 2008 as attached.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATION

1. In accordance with proper internal audit practices and the Internal Audit Strategy, the Audit Committee is required to receive the Chief Internal Auditor's status report.

CONSULTATION

2. The Status of Work report for the period ending 28th February 2008 has been received by the Chief Officers' Management Team.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

3. None

DETAIL

4. The status report for the period ending 28th February 2008 is attached for consideration in the appendix.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital

5. None

<u>Revenue</u>

6. None

Property

7. None

<u>Other</u>

8. None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

9. The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006 require the Council to 'maintain an adequate and effective system of internal audit of its accounting records and of its system of internal control in accordance with the proper practices in relation to internal control'.

Other Legal Implications:

10. None

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

11. None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices					
1.	Internal Audit: Status of Work Report period ending 28 th February 2008				
Documents In Members' Rooms					
1.	None				
Background Documents					
Title of I	Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)			
1.	None				
Background documents available for inspection at: N/A					
FORW	ARD PLAN No: N/A KI	EY DECISION? NO			
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED: N/A					