Progress Report

Southampton City Council

Audit 2009/10 & 2010/11

September 2010





Contents

Progress with 2009/10 audit and assessment

3

Progress with 2010/11 audit and assessment

6

Status of our reports

The Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies issued by the Audit Commission explains the respective responsibilities of auditors and of the audited body. Reports prepared by appointed auditors are addressed to non-executive directors/ members or officers. They are prepared for the sole use of the audited body. Auditors accept no responsibility to:

- any director/member or officer in their individual capacity; or
- any third party.

Progress with 2009/10 audit and assessment

Report	AC key contact	Authority contact	Expected report	Reported to Audit Committee	Comment
Audit plan 2009/10	Kate Handy	Audit Committee	March 2009	24 June 2009	The initial fee letter for 2009/10 was agreed with officers in April 2009 and presented to the Audit Committee at its 24 June 2009 meeting. A detailed opinion plan was discussed at the 23 June 2010 meeting of the Audit Committee.
Area Assessment Plan	Linda Krywald	Audit Committee	March 2009	24 June 2009	The letter setting out the approach and fee for the Organisational Assessment (OA) and Area Assessment (AA) was agreed with officers in April 2009 and reported to the Audit Committee at its meeting on 24 June 2009. The OA and AA reports were published in December 2009 and a briefing session for members took place on 20 January 2010.

Report	AC key contact	Authority contact	Expected report	Reported to Audit Committee	Comment			
Financial statements	Financial statements							
Interim audit memorandum (If appropriate)	Mike Bowers	Carolyn Williamson	June 2010	N/A	The pre statements audit has been completed.			
					The issues arising have been discussed with key officers. There is however nothing that we need to bring to the attention of the Audit Committee.			
Annual Governance Report (ISA260)	Kate Handy	Standards and Governance Committee	September 2010	September 2010	This is on the agenda for the September meeting of the Audit Committee			
Accounts opinion	Kate Handy	Standards and Governance Committee	September 2010	September 2010	This report is on the agenda for the September meeting of the Audit Committee			
Final Accounts memorandum (If appropriate)	Mike Bowers	Rob Carr	October 2010					
Use of Resources								
Use of Resources	Kate Handy	Brad Roynon	September 2010	N/A	Following the announcement of the abolition of CAA we will not be issuing scores for Use of Resources. We have used the work we have completed to enable us to arrive at our value for money conclusion. Any significant findings from our work will be reported in the Annual Audit Letter.			
Building Schools for the Future - overview	Jane Burns	Clive Webster	N/A	N/A	The government has withdrawn support for the programme.			

Progress with 2009/10 audit and assessment

Report	AC key contact	Authority contact	Expected report	Reported to Audit Committee	Comment		
Highways maintenance	Tim Thomas Gordon Westley	Nick Johnson	Updates as necessary	25 January 2010	The report was presented at the January 2010 meeting of the Audit Committee.		
Use of Resources (conti	Use of Resources (continued)						
Data Quality Spot checks (If necessary)	Mike Bowers	Joy Wilmot-Palmer	N/A	N/A	The DQ spot checks have been completed and have been used to inform our UoR work and the 2009/10 value for money conclusion. There are no issues that we need to bring to the Audit Committee's attention.		
Certification of grant claims and returns							
Annual report	Mike Bowers	Carolyn Williamson	March 2010	18 March 2010	The report was presented to the Audit Committee on 18 March 2010.		
Inspection							
Short Notice Inspection (Pilot) –Local authority strategic housing services	Julie Watts	Nick Murphy	June 2009	25 January 2010	The report was presented at the January 2010 Audit Committee.		

Progress with 2010/11 audit and assessment

Report	AC key contact	Authority contact	Expected report	Reported to Audit Committee	Comment
Audit plan 2010/11	Kate Handy	Audit Committee	June 2010	June 2010	The initial fee letter for 2010/11 was presented at the June 2010 meeting A more detailed opinion plan will be prepared and discussed with officers when the audit for 2009/10 has been completed.
Comprehensive Area Assessment Plan	Lind Krywald	Audit Committee	June 2010	June 2010	Our work on CAA has been halted following the government's decision to abolish CAA. We have therefore withdrawn this plan.

The Audit Commission

The Audit Commission is an independent watchdog, driving economy, efficiency and effectiveness in local public services to deliver better outcomes for everyone.

Our work across local government, health, housing, community safety and fire and rescue services means that we have a unique perspective. We promote value for money for taxpayers, auditing the £200 billion spent by 11,000 local public bodies.

As a force for improvement, we work in partnership to assess local public services and make practical recommendations for promoting a better quality of life for local people.

Copies of this report

If you require further copies of this report, or a copy in large print, in Braille, audio, or in a language other than English, please call 0844 798 7070.

© Audit Commission 2010

For further information on the work of the Commission please contact:

Audit Commission, 1st Floor, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4HQ

Tel: 0844 798 1212 Fax: 0844 798 2945 Textphone (minicom): 0844 798 2946

www.audit-commission.gov.uk