

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE			
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	AUDIT COMMISSION: ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REPORT 2009/10			
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	23 SEPTEMBER 2010			
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	CHIEF INTERNAL AUDITOR			
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Name:	Neil Pitman	Tel:	023 8083 4616
	E-mail:	Neil.pitman@southampton.gov.uk		

#### **STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY**

NOT APPLICABLE

#### **SUMMARY**

The Audit Commission is required to report to the Standards and Governance Committee on matters of governance interest coming to their attention in performance of their 2009/10 audit of accounts.

The Audit Commission's Annual Governance Report 2009/10 is appended.

The Audit Commission (subject to peer review in respect of HRA Heating Charges) expects to issue an unqualified audit opinion on the 2009/10 financial statements.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the Standards and Governance Committee:

- (i) Considers the matters raised in the report before approving the financial statements;
- (ii) Take note of the adjustments to the financial statements which are set out in this report;
- (iii) Be aware of the audit work that has still to be completed prior to the audit opinion being given;
- (iv) Approve the letter of representation on behalf of the Council before the Audit Commission issues their opinion and conclusion; and
- (v) Agree responses to the proposed action plan.

#### **REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Under the statutory Code of Audit Practice, the Audit Commission is required to issue a report to those charged with governance, summarising the conclusions from their audit work.

#### **CONSULTATION**

2. The report has been discussed and agreed with the Interim Director of Resources, the Acting Head of Finance and the Solicitor to the Council.

#### **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

3. None

## **DETAIL**

4. The Audit Commission's Annual Governance Report 2009/10 and supplementary Papers are attached for consideration in the appendix. The external auditor will be in attendance at the Committee meeting to answer any questions.

## **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

### **Capital**

5. None

### **Revenue**

6. None

### **Property**

7. None

### **Other**

8. None

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

### **Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:**

9. The statutory responsibilities and powers of appointed auditors are set out in the Audit Commission Act 1998 and Local Government Act 1999. In discharging these specific statutory responsibilities and powers, auditors are required to carry out their work in accordance with the Audit Commission's *Code of Audit Practice*.

### **Other Legal Implications:**

10. None

## **POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS**

11. None

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices**

1.	Annual Governance Report 2009/10
2.	Supplementary Papers

**Documents In Members' Rooms**

1.	None
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**Background Documents**

Title of Background Paper(s)

Relevant Paragraph of the  
Access to Information  
Procedure Rules / Schedule  
12A allowing document to be  
Exempt/Confidential (if  
applicable)

1.	None	
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**Background documents available for inspection at:** Internal Audit Office, North Block  
Basement, Civic Centre

E-mail: [Neil.pitman@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.pitman@southampton.gov.uk)

**FORWARD PLAN No:** N/A

**KEY DECISION?**

No

**WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:** N/A

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