

FINAL REPORT ON 2002/2003 AUDIT PLAN

1. SUMMARY

A final report covering audits performed by Internal Audit during 2002 – 03 is appended. (See Appendix 1).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The contents of this report are noted.

3. DETAILS

3.1 The report appended lists the audits that were scheduled for the financial year 2002 – 03. The objective of the report is to advise members of the final status of each audit. (See Appendix 1).

3.2 A total of 28 audits were planned these can be broken down into the following categories:

- 19 Core Financial Systems Audits and
- 9 Non Financial Systems Audits.

Additional to the above Internal Audit carried out special investigations, follow up reviews and external audit work.

3.3 Of 19 Core Financial Systems audits, one audit Purchase Ordering & Certification was amalgamated with another audit for efficiency reasons. This was reported previously to the Audit Committee.

Of the remaining 18 audits 16 Final reports with implementation plans have been issued with the remaining 2 audits at Final Draft stage.

3.4 Of 9 Non Financial Systems audits one audit Best Value was amalgamated with the Performance Management & Planning (PMP) audit for efficiency reasons.

Of the remaining 8 audits 5 Final reports have been issued 3 audits are at Final Draft stage.

3.5 Throughout 2002 – 03 Internal Audit resources were tight and in the final quarter of the financial year additional experienced resources were brought in on a contract basis. This allowed the internal audit plan to progress resulting in the annual audit plan being completed.

- 3.6 Additional to the above Internal Audit completed a number of special investigations. Also follow up reviews were carried out for both internal and external audit reports issued in the previous financial year. Internal audit report recommendations have been implemented and those external audit report recommendations remaining to be implemented are highlighted in separate reports to the audit committee.
- 3.7 Based on audit work carried out in 2002 – 03, we are of the opinion that the Council’s systems provide a reasonable assurance regarding the effective and efficient achievement of the Council’s objectives. We have indicated in our audit reports certain matters, which we understand are being addressed by local management; our opinion on the Council’s systems is based on our recommendations being satisfactorily implemented. Additional assurance has been given in an Internal Financial Control Statement (IFCS) prepared by Internal Audit and is the subject of a separate report to the Audit Committee.

4. CONCLUSIONS

The audit plan for 2002 – 03, was effectively completed by the 31st May 2003. The audit committee is asked to accept the assurances provided by Internal Audit, based on the 2002 – 03 audit work completed.

5. IMPLICATIONS

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| 5.1 | Policy: | None |
| 5.2 | Financial: | None |
| 5.3 | Personnel: | None |
| 5.4 | Legal: | None |
| 5.5 | Equal Opportunities: | None |

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