

**GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
29 SEPTEMBER 2009**

**EXTERNAL AUDIT: ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REPORT
(Director of Corporate Services - Finance)**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report advises Members of a report by the Council's external auditor summarising the work carried out to discharge their statutory audit responsibilities.

2 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Code of Audit Practice requires the external auditor to provide a summary of the work they carried out to discharge their statutory audit responsibilities to 'those charged with governance'. It is also a requirement that this summary be considered ahead of the signing of the accounts by the external auditor, which must be no later than 30 September 2009. Now that the detailed audit work is substantially complete, the external auditor has issued his report and Phil Sharman, the District Auditor will be at the meeting to present the report and answer queries. The attached report covers the following areas:

- Financial statements;
- Use of resources;
- Audit opinion and value for money conclusion;
- Letter of representation.

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