

**GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE  
25 JANUARY 2011**

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**ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2009/10  
(Borough Treasurer)**

**1 PURPOSE OF DECISION**

- 1.1 To present the Audit Commission's Annual Audit Letter 2009/10 to the Governance and Audit Committee. The district auditor will be attending the meeting to present the Letter and answer any questions the Committee may have.

**2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **That the Governance and Audit Committee notes the Annual Audit Letter.**
- 2.2 **That the Corporate Management Team has regard to the recommendations set out in the Annual Audit Letter when developing the service plans for the coming year.**

**3 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

Borough Solicitor

- 3.1 There are no legal implications relating to this report.

Borough Treasurer

- 3.2 Nothing to add to the report.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 3.3 There are no specific issues arising directly from this report.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 3.4 All risk issues identified in the Annual Audit Letter will be addressed in the next set of departmental service plans.

**4 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 4.1 The Audit Commission is required to provide the Council with an Annual Audit Letter (set out at Appendix 1). The Letter provides an overall summary of the Audit Commission's assessment of the Council. Because of changes consequent on the new Government's approach to inspections, the Letter differs from previous years' Annual Audit and Inspection Letters (which used to set out star ratings). The new Annual Audit Letter now focuses solely on the Council's financial statements and arrangements to achieve value for money in the use of resources.
- 4.2 The Audit Commission has given an unqualified opinion on the Council's accounts. An unqualified opinion has also been issued regarding the Council's arrangements to

“secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources”. Four recommendations are set out in the report which will be addressed as the Council works up its next cycle of service plans.

Background Papers

None

Contact for further information

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