

**TO: GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE  
8 NOVEMBER 2011**

**THE EXECUTIVE  
15 NOVEMBER 2011**

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**ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2010/11  
Chief Executive/Borough Treasurer**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To receive the Audit Commission's Annual Audit Letter for 2010/11.

**2 RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**2.1 That the Governance and Audit Committee and the Executive note the Annual Audit Letter 2010/11 at Appendix 1.**

**2.2 That recommendations set out in the Annual Audit Letter 2010/11 are reflected in the Corporate Services Service Plan for the coming year.**

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

3.1 The Annual Audit Letter must be considered in public by those charged with governance. In Bracknell Forest this is the Governance and Audit Committee. However, given the Executive's overall responsibilities it is important that it also receives the report.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

4.1 None

**5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

5.1 The Audit Commission is required to provide the Council with an Annual Audit Letter (set out at Appendix 1). The letter summarises the findings from the 2010/11 audit, which comprises two elements:

- the audit of the financial statements; and
- the District Auditor's assessment of the Council's arrangements to achieve value for money in the use of resources.

5.2 The Audit Commission has given an unqualified opinion on the Council's financial statements. An unqualified conclusion has also been given on the Council's arrangements for securing value for money. Three recommendations are set out in the report and given that the focus is largely on strategic financial issues it is recommended that these be reflected in the Corporate Services Service Plan for the coming year.

- 5.3 The District Auditor, Phil Sharman, will attend the meeting of the Governance and Audit Committee to present the Annual Audit Letter 2010/11.

## **6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

### Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 Nothing to add to the report.

### Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 Nothing to add to the report.

### Equalities Impact Assessment

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

### Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 The Annual Audit Letter identifies the strategic financial risks facing the Council. These will be addressed through the Strategic Risk Register, Service Plans and the Council's financial planning process.

## **7 CONSULTATION**

Not applicable.

### Background Papers

None

### Contact for further information

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### Doc. Ref.

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