



Accountants &
business advisers

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Progress report to those charged with governance

June 2010

2009/10 Annual Audit Plan – progress summary as at 4 June 2010

Area of work	Scope / Associated deadlines	Status	Outputs / Date
Planning	Risk assessment and formulation of the annual audit and inspection plan. Annual Audit Fee Letter 2009/10 to be issued by June 2009. Detailed audit plan to be issued following completion of the 2008/09 audit by the end of Autumn 2009.	First phase complete. Second phase complete. Planning ongoing until completion of final accounts audit.	Annual Audit Fee Letter 2009/10 issued and agreed June 2009 Detailed audit plan issued in December 2009 and reported to Audit Committee January 2010.
Accounts			
Interim audit	Audit of the key financial systems that support the statement of accounts. To be completed prior to commencement of the audit of the statement of accounts in July 2010.	Work substantially complete.	No specific output. Commentary will be included in the report to those charged with governance as part of the completion of the audit of the statement of accounts.
Statement of accounts audit	Audit of the draft statement of accounts to determine whether they present fairly the Council's financial affairs and the income and expenditure. Deadline for issue of audit opinion and publication of the statement of accounts is 30 September 2010.	Audit start date agreed – 5 July 2010.	Annual Governance Report to those charged with governance to Audit Committee September 2010. Opinion on the statement of accounts Accounts publication deadline 30 September 2010.
Use of Resources			
Use of Resources assessment against KLoE	Assessments on Managing Finances, Governing the Business and Managing Resources, to assess activity up to 31 March 2009. Draft scores to be reported to the Audit Commission by 14 August 2009. Finalised scores to be confirmed by the Audit Commission 14 September 2009.	Assessment complete. Reporting to the Audit Commission complete. Reporting to the Audit Committee completed January 2010.	Audit report on Use of Resources assessment reported to the Audit Committee in January 2010
Local risk work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Financial Standing to monitor the Council's progress in identifying and delivering the savings required to maintain a balanced budget and outturn position through our regular strategic liaison meetings. 	Ongoing.	Results to be reported alongside VFM conclusion in September 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of arrangements to deliver the additional capital works to the housing stock. 	Discussions on arrangements in place undertaken.	Results to be reported in July and presented to Audit Committee in September 2010

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of arrangements to deliver the Building Schools for the Future programme. 	<p>Discussions on arrangements in place to produce the bid for funding undertaken.</p> <p>The submitted bid was unsuccessful, therefore the additional arrangements to deliver the programme were not implemented.</p>	Results to be reported alongside VFM conclusion in September 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of the Council's plans for delivery of projects with Thames Gateway and arrangements in place to deliver this work. 	Start date TBC.	Results to be reported in July and presented to Audit Committee in September 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess progress made since the initial Health Inequalities report, focussing on outcomes achieved. 	<p>Review and workshops completed.</p> <p>Report drafting in progress.</p>	Pan-Essex report to be issued in June 2010.
VFM conclusion	<p>Review to support a conclusion on whether the Council has appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ending 31 March 2010.</p> <p>Conclusion to be given alongside the accounts opinion by the deadline of 30 September 2010.</p>	<p>Discussions on the development of arrangements undertaken as part of Use of Resources assessment.</p> <p>Review of evidence provided to support management update on development of arrangements undertaken.</p>	<p>VFM conclusion</p> <p>Target issue date 30 September 2010.</p>

2010/11 Annual Audit Plan – progress summary as at 4 June 2010

Area of work	Scope / Associated deadlines	Status	Outputs / Date
Planning	Risk assessment and formulation of the annual audit and inspection plan. Annual Audit Fee Letter 2010/11 to be issued by April 2010. Detailed audit plan to be issued following completion of the 2009/10 audit by the end of Autumn 2010.	First phase work in progress. Second phase to be completed following completion of the 2009/10 audit of the financial statements. Planning ongoing until completion of final accounts audit.	Annual Audit Fee Letter 2010/11 issued to management April 2010 and being reported to Audit Committee June 2010. Follow up plan issued in December 2010 and to be reported to Audit Committee January 2011.
Accounts			
Interim audit	Audit of the key financial systems that support the statement of accounts. To be completed prior to commencement of the audit of the statement of accounts in July 2011.	Audit start date to be agreed – expected to be February 2011.	No specific output. Commentary will be included in the report to those charged with governance as part of the completion of the audit of the statement of accounts.
Statement of accounts audit	Audit of the draft statement of accounts to determine whether they present fairly the Council's financial affairs and the income and expenditure. Deadline for issue of audit opinion and publication of the statement of accounts is 30 September 2011.	Audit start date to be agreed – expected to be July 2011.	Annual Governance Report to those charged with governance to Audit Committee September 2011. Opinion on the statement of accounts Accounts publication deadline 30 Sept 2011.
Use of Resources			
Use of Resources assessment against KLoE	Assessments on Managing Finances, Governing the Business and Managing Resources, to assess activity up to 31 March 2010. Indicative scores to be reported to the Audit Commission by 21 April 2010. Assessment has been halted due to change of government policy. Final scores no longer to be reported to the Audit Commission, or published.	Assessment work in progress. Indicative reporting to the Audit Commission completed in line with deadlines. Assessment halted.	Audit report on of Use of Resources assessment work undertaken up to the point at which the assessment was halted to be reported to officers in September 2010.
Local risk work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> review the Councils arrangements to manage the Joint Financing of Social Services and any further plans to pool resources to ensure that targets are addressed 	Scope to be agreed.	Results to be reported in November 2010.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> review the Council's arrangements to manage the Transfer of funding for 16-19 year olds from the Learning and Skills Council to Local Government 	Scope to be agreed.	Results to be reported in November 2010.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> review the Council's arrangements to manage the Delivering Excellence Transformation project to establish how the Council is going to manage the delivery of targets set for achievement 	Scope to be agreed.	Results to be reported in February 2011.

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VFM conclusion	Review to support a conclusion on whether the Council has appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ending 31 March 2011. Conclusion to be given alongside the accounts opinion by the deadline of 30 September 2011.	Discussions on the development of arrangements to be held with management.	VFM conclusion Target issue date 30 September 2011.