

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Chief Executive and Town Clerk

to

Audit Committee

on

28 March 2012

Report prepared by: Linda Everard, Head of Internal Audit

PKF: Progress Report to Those Charged with Governance

A Part 1 Public Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To report on progress in delivering the 2010/11 and 2011/12 Annual Audit Plan.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Committee accepts progress made in delivering the Annual Audit Plan for 2010/11 and 2011/12.

3. Background

3.1 A senior representative of PKF (the appointed External Auditor to the Council) will present this report to the Audit Committee and respond to Members' questions.

4. Corporate Implications

4.1 Contribution to Council's Aims, Priorities and Outcomes

Audit work contributes to the delivery of all corporate Aims, Priorities and Objectives.

4.2 Financial Implications

The cost of external audit for 2010/11 is £350,650 and for 2011/12 is £315,585.

4.3 Legal Implications

The Council is required to have an external audit of its activities that complies with the requirements of the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice (the Code). By considering this report, the Committee can satisfy itself that this requirement is being discharged.

4.4 People and Property Implications

None

4.5 Consultation

This planned audit work has been discussed and agreed with the Corporate Director Support Services and the Head of Finance and Resources.

4.6 Equalities and Diversity Implications

None

4.7 Risk Assessment

Periodically considering whether the external auditor is delivering the agreed Annual Audit Plan helps mitigate the risk that the Council does not receive an external audit service that complies with the requirement of the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice.

4.8 Value for Money

The Audit Commission sets the fee formula for determining external audit fees for all external auditors, taking into account the information gained from its own in-house audit practice and when market testing the 30% of audit work that it delivered by the private sector.

4.9 Community Safety Implications and Environmental Impact

None

5. Background Papers

None

6. Attachment: Progress Report to Those Charged with Governance