

Appendices

2



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Item No.

8

Audit Committee

Report Title

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

AGENDA STATUS:

Public

Audit Committee Meeting Date:	27 September 2010
Directorate:	Finance and Support – Finance
Accountable Cabinet Member:	Councillor David Perkins
Ward(s)	N/A

1. Purpose

1.1 To present the outcome of the 2009/10 annual audit to Audit Committee.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Audit Committee accepts the Annual Governance Report (ISA 260) (Appendix 1) of the Audit Commission and approves the adjustments to the accounts detailed therein;
- 2.2 That the Audit Committee approves the Council's Letter of Representation (Appendix 2).

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 Audit Committee approved the draft Statement of Accounts for 2009/10 at its meeting on 28th June 2010.
- 3.1.2 Following this meeting, the accounts have been open to public inspection and have been audited by the Council's external auditors, the Audit Commission.
- 3.1.3 There were no issues raised by the public during the period of public inspection.

- 3.1.4 The Audit Commission have completed their audit and have produced their report to those charged with Governance; the Annual Governance Report, otherwise known as the ISA 260, is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.1.5 Following the audit, it is standard practice for the auditors to request a letter of representation, attached at Appendix 2.

3.2 Issues

- 3.2.1 Changes, which have been made to the Statement of Accounts, are detailed in the Annual Governance Report on pages 19 to 21.
- 3.2.2 There are two items, which have been identified by the auditors, that have not been adjusted in the accounts. These are listed in the Annual Governance Report on page 22. These items have not been adjusted because the effect on the accounts is immaterial and there would be a significant amount of work required to implement the changes, outweighing any benefit. Further detail on this is contained in the letter of representation shown at Appendix 2.
- 3.2.3 The Council's auditors have identified a number of improvements which the Council could make for next year and these are shown in the Annual Governance Report on pages 27 to 30.

3.3 Choices (Options)

- 3.3.1 Audit Committee are asked to approve the changes to the Statement of Accounts 2009/10 and the Letter of Representation.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

None

4.2 Resources and Risk

4.3 Legal

The Council must publish the approved Statement of Accounts by 30th September.

4.4 Equality

None

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

Members of the Public during the Statutory Period of Public Inspection.

4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes

None

4.7 Other Implications

None

5. Background Papers

5.1 Office working files including evidence

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