



AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Report Title	External Audit Plan 2012-13
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Audit Committee Meeting Date:	18 March 2013
Policy Document:	No
Directorate:	Resources
Accountable Cabinet Member:	Cllr Alan Bottwood

1. Purpose

1.1 This report presents the external audit plan prepared by KPMG for consideration.

2. Recommendations

2.1 To note the Audit Plan 2012/13.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

3.1.1 Each year the authority's external auditors prepare an audit plan for the final accounts audit defining their approach, resource requirements, etc as well as the expected fee. This document is attached at appendix A.

3.2 Issues

3.2.1 The report presents the External Audit Plan 2012-13 for consideration. The Audit Plan outlines the statutory responsibilities of the auditors as well as covering the work they will undertake auditing the Whole of Government Accounts return and the Annual Governance Statement. It also explains the KPMG approach to establishing their value for money opinion.

- 3.2.2 There are a couple of areas to draw the committee's attention to, the first being the provisional fee, which can be found on page 18 of the attached Audit Plan along with the assumptions on which that fee is based. These assumptions include the time set aside for the audit, a period of 3 weeks, which is shorter than most previous external audits this authority has experienced.
- 3.2.3 The Committee will also find of interest the proposed use of the KPMG Global Services team for parts of the audit referred to on page 8. This is the KPMG off shore team in India, and NBC will need to assure itself as to the security of its information being transferred to and from that team and how the timescales would be managed to ensure that there are no delays to the audit.

3.3 Choices (Options)

- 3.3.1 The Committee is invited to comment on the Audit Plan and matters arising from it.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

- 4.1.1 There are no policy implications arising from this report.

4.2 Resources and Risk

- 4.2.1 The Committee is asked to note that there is a risk of the audit fee increasing if the timescales etc detailed in the Audit Plan are not delivered.

4.3 Legal

- 4.3.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

4.4 Equality

- 4.4.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

- 4.5.1 None.

4.6 Other Implications

- 4.6.1 Not applicable.

5. Background Papers

- 5.1 Appendix 1 – Audit Plan 2012-13

Neil Bellamy
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