
MONITORING REPORT

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The monitoring of recommendations by the Audit Commission, external auditors, and inspectors is a discretionary issue that is overseen by Internal Audit and Audit Committee.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report draws Members' attention to the latest Audit Commission publications and suggested best practice. The recommendations of the external auditors, including Best Value and Value for Money reports, and the Benefit Fraud Inspectorate have also been included in order that they may be monitored by this committee.

3 NEW AUDIT COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Audit Commission has circulated further publications, which have been summarised for Members in [appendix 1](#). These are:-
- *Think Piece – a new framework of financial reporting and accountability in local government*
 - *Building for the Future – the management of procurement under the private finance initiative*
 - *Change Here! – managing change to improve local services*

The recommended best practice has been added to the monitoring sheet in [appendix 2](#).

4 EXTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The recommendations of the Council's external auditors, Pannell Kerr Foster, have been included in [appendix 3](#) in order that this Committee may monitor progress. This section also includes their recommendations from the Value for Money Indicator reports on Service and Financial Planning, Income and Charging, Recruitment and Training, and Environmental Stewardship.

5 BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN – EXTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The external audit recommendations from 2000/2001 shown in [appendix 4](#) have been incorporated into the current recommendations for 2001/02, which will continue to be monitored by internal audit.

6 BENEFIT FRAUD INSPECTORATE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The progress made to date on the BFI recommendations appear in [appendix 5](#).

7 RECOMMENDATION

It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES:**

- (1) That the additional Audit Commission publications be acknowledged and the recommended best practice arising from them be noted.
- (2) That the updated monitoring sheet for the Audit Commission publications be agreed.
- (3) That the monitoring sheet for the external audit recommendations, including the value for money reports, be agreed.
- (4) That the monitoring sheet for the Best Value Performance Plan recommendations be agreed.
- (5) That the monitoring sheet for the BFI recommendations be agreed. (CEX)

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Background Papers:

None

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