UPDATE OF EXTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

1 SUMMARY

1.1 Recommendations from the Audit Commission, External Auditors and Inspectors are monitored by Internal Audit and their review falls within the discretion of this Committee.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report draws Members' attention to the recommendations of the "Report to Those Charged with Governance, September 2008".
- 2.3 The Council's external auditors, PKF, presented this report to the Audit Committee on 30 September 2008.

3 EXTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The recommendations and management responses arising from the report have been included in Appendix 1, together with progress to date.

4 RECOMMENDATION

4.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES** that the monitoring sheets for the External Audit recommendations be agreed.

Yvonne Woodward

Head of Finance, Audit and Performance Management

Background Papers:-

None

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If you would like this report in large print, Braille or another language please contact 01702 546366.

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Appendix 1

MONITORING PROGRESS OF RECOMMENDATIONS RAISED BY PKF – REPORT TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE, SEPTEMBER 2008

Conclusions From Work	Recommendations	Priority	Management Response	Responsible Officer	Timing			
Valuation Date								
The valuation report on the 1 April 2008 has been used to value the assets on the 31 March 2008. This is incorrect, and the 1 April 2008 report should have been used to inform the 31 March 2009 accounts.	Revise the Valuation accounting policy to ensure that the valuation figures are included in the correct financial year	High	Original Response Agreed. Valuation report for 1 April 2008 will be used for 2008/09 closure of accounts. Update 9/2/09 Progressing as part of Final Account process	Financial Services Manager	May 2009			

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Appendix 1

Conclusions From Work	Recommendations	Priority	Management Response	Responsible Officer	Timing				
Un-Presented Cheques									
The bank reconciliation includes £28k of unpresented cheques that were over six months old as at the 31 March 2008. Due to the age of these cheques they are unlikely to be cashed.	Undertake a critical review of un-presented cheques and remove items that will not be cashed.	Medium	Original Response Agreed. All un-presented cheques identified in this report have now been investigated and either the cheques have been stopped/reissued, written back against an outstanding overpayment or cancelled altogether in appropriate circumstances. Process control now in place. Documented procedure to be drawn up to underpin new process by 30th November 2008 Update 9/2/09 Recommendation fully implemented	Revenues & Benefits Manager	Originally November 2008 Now IMPLEMENTED				