

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Audit and Governance Committee

Date of Meeting: 29th September 2011
Report of: Director of Finance and Business Services
Subject/Title: 2010-11 Annual Governance Report

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 The Annual Governance Report will be presented to the Committee by the Audit Commission, the Council's external auditors. The report summarises the findings from the 2010/11 Audit. It identifies the key issues that have been considered by the Audit Commission before issuing their opinion on the Council's financial statements and its arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That members receive and comment on the Annual Governance Report for 2010/11 for Cheshire East Borough Council.
- 2.2 That members approve the final Statement of Accounts for 2010/11.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 The appointed auditors are required to report to those charged with governance. The Annual Governance Report presents the findings, conclusions and recommendations from audit work undertaken relating to the financial year 2010/11.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate change/Health

- 6.1 None.

7.0 Financial Implications (Authorised by the Director of Finance and Business Services)

7.1 As covered in the report.

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

8.1 As covered in the report.

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 The Local Government Act 2003 and the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 require the Statement of Accounts to be produced in line with recommended accounting practices.

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations (2011) required the Statement of Accounts to be prepared and certified by the Council's Section 151 Officer (Director of Finance and Business Services) by the 30th June 2011 before being presented for audit.

10.2 The auditors are responsible for giving an opinion on:

- whether the accounts present a true and fair view of the financial position of the authority and its expenditure and income for the year in question;
- whether they have been prepared properly in accordance with relevant legislation and applicable accounting standards.

10.3 The findings, conclusions and recommendations from the audit work undertaken by the appointed auditors will be presented to the Committee on 29th September 2011.

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: Joanne Wilcox

Designation: Corporate Finance Lead

Tel No: (01270) 685869

Email: joanne.wilcox@cheshireeast.gov.uk