CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Audit and Governance Committee

Date of Meeting: 27th March 2012

Report of: Director of Finance & Business Services

Subject/Title: Certification of Claims and Returns – Annual Report

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Michael Jones, Resources

1.0 Report Summary

1.1 The report provides a summary of the key findings that have been identified during the Audit Commission's certification process for 2010-11 specific grant income.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 That the Committee receive and comment on the Grants Certification Report which is attached as Appendix 1.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 To ensure that members consider the issues and recommendations raised within the report.

4.0 Wards Affected

4.1 Not applicable.

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable.
- 6.0 Policy Implications, including carbon reduction and 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 None.

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 The risks associated with the findings of this report relate to a position where the Council may not meet the conditions required for grant funding and a financial liability is incurred.

10.0 Background and Options

- 10.1 The report summarises the findings from the certification of 2010-11 claims. It includes recommendations arising from the auditor's assessment of the Councils arrangements for preparing claims and returns and information on claims that were amended or qualified.
- 10.2 The report recommends the strengthening of arrangements to ensure that all claims and returns are submitted in accordance with the timetable and improvements in supporting documentation.
- 10.3 The fees associated with the grant certification work in 2010-11 were £74,647.

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