

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Corporate Audit Committee	
MEETING DATE:	7th December 2010	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
TITLE:	Annual Audit Letter – Audit 2009/10	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
Appendix 1 – Annual Audit Letter Bath & North East Somerset Council 2009/10		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 The report in Appendix 1, entitled 'Annual Audit Letter' summarises the findings from the 2009/10 audit by the External Auditor. It comprises two elements – the results of the audit of our financial statements and the assessment of our value for money arrangements. The Audit Committee is the nominated body under delegated authority from full Council to receive and consider this report.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Corporate Audit Committee is asked to:

2.1 Note the Annual Audit Letter detailed in Appendix 1 and comment on the Council's performance and response to the audit recommendations highlighted in the report.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no financial implications relevant to this report.

4 THE REPORT

4.1 The Annual Audit Letter summarises all the work undertaken by the external auditor in relation to the 2009/10 audit. Appendix 1 provides full details of this work which include the following key messages –

- The Accounts were presented on time with only two material misstatements which had no effect on the overall financial position of the Council;
- A true and fair view of our financial statements has been given by the External Auditor;
- The Council has good value for money arrangements with improved results around the areas of financial management, governance and management of resources;
- There are small additional audit fees in relation to extra work required to be carried out by the External Auditor;
- The Council has prepared well for the impacts of reductions in grant funding and will need to continue to show strong leadership in meeting the challenges ahead and not underestimate the capacity needed to manage significant organisational change.

4.2 The Audit Letter contains two specific recommendations and the Council will respond to those at the Committee meeting.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

5.1 A proportionate risk assessment has been carried out in relation to the Councils risk management guidance and there are no significant issues to report.

6 EQUALITIES

6.1 A proportionate equalities impact assessment has been carried out and there are no significant issues to report.

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 Consultation has been carried out with the Chief Executive, Section 151 Finance Officer and Cabinet Member for Resources.

Contact person	Jeff Wring (01225 477323)
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	