

AUDIT PLAN 2008-2008
WDA/38/08

Recommendation

That Members approve the content of the Audit Plan for 2008/09.

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Report of the Director

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To seek approval to the content of the Audit Plan to be undertaken by the Audit Commission in 2008/09.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Authority agrees an Audit Plan with the Audit Commission each year.
- 2.2 The audit plan for 2008/09 complies with the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Code of Audit Practice as they apply to the Audit Commission's work.

3. Audit Plan 2008/09

- 3.1 The Audit Plan for 2008/09 identifies the following key areas of work:
- Financial Statements
 - Value for Money Conclusion
- 3.2 The full Audit Plan 2008/09 is attached at Appendix A.

4. Risk Implications

- 4.1 The Audit Plan is developed by the Audit Commission using a risk-based approach. The risk assessment for 2008/09 is attached at Appendix 3 to the Audit Plan.
- 4.2 In brief, the auditor highlighted the following key risks:
- Procurement of waste disposal facilities present significant risks. Key to success will be maintaining good governance arrangements and demonstrating value for money.

- Management of the transition from old contracts managed by Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd to contracts with new suppliers presents significant risks for financial planning and reporting.
- 4.3 In view of the fact that the 2007/08 audit is yet to be completed, the Audit Commission will reassess risks throughout the year and will continue to review the proposed audit plan.

5. Environmental Implications

- 5.1 There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 The total indicative fee for the audit work for 2008/09 is £67,037. This compares to the revised planned fee of £66,762 for 2007/08.
- 6.2 The Audit Fee has been included in the Approved Revenue Budget 2008/09.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 Members are asked to consider the content of the Audit Plan 2008/09.

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The background documents to this report are open to inspection in accordance with Section 100D of The Local Government Act 1972 - Nil.