

EXTERNAL AUDIT – ANNUAL AUDIT FEE PLAN 2011/12
WDA/06/12

Recommendation

That Members note the planned audit work proposed by the Audit Commission for the review of the financial year 2011/12.

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Report of the Treasurer

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To inform Members of the proposed audit work identified by the Audit Commission for 2011/12

2. Background

- 2.1 The Authority agrees an Audit Plan each year with the Audit Commission, who are the Authority's external auditors.
- 2.2 The Audit Commission's Audit Plan sets out the proposed audit work for 2011/12 and is attached at Appendix 1.

3. Audit Plan 2011/12

- 3.1 The proposed audit work for 2011/12 identifies the following key audit areas:
- Financial Statements
 - Value for Money Conclusion

4. Risk Implications

- 4.1 The Authority's Audit Plan is developed by the Audit Commission using a risk-based approach to audit planning as set out in the Code of Audit Practice.
- 4.2 The proposed work plan and fees assume a similar level of risk for the audit as in the previous year unless there are known changes at the Authority.
- 4.3 In brief, the auditor highlights the following key risks for 2011/12:

- The quality of the financial statements;
 - Group accounts
 - Agreement of cash balances with St Helens Council;
 - Disposal of the former NTDP asset; and
 - The Resource Recovery Contract procurement.
- 4.4 The Audit Commission will reassess risks throughout the year which will inform the proposed audit work.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The total indicative fee for 2011/12 is £71,500. This is in line with £71,453 in the previous year and has been provided for in the Authority's budget for 2011/12.

6. Human Resources implications

- 6.1 There are no human resources implications associated with this report

7. Environmental implications

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

8. Conclusion

- 8.1 Members are asked to note the planned audit work and fees proposed by the Audit Commission for 2011/12.

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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.