ANNUAL AUDIT AND INSPECTION LETTER 2006/07 WDA/40/07

Recommendation

That:

1. Members note the contents of the Annual Audit Letter and Inspection Letter 2006/07.

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Report of the Director of Waste Disposal

1. Purpose of the Report

To present to Members the 2006/2007 Annual Audit and Inspection Letter and to report the outcome of the review.

2. Background

- 2.1 The District Auditor publishes an Annual Audit and Inspection Letter each year which reports the outcome of their work during the year and makes specific recommendations for the coming year.
- 2.2 The Director has recently received the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter for 2006/07 which is attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.3 The Audit Commission agree an audit plan each year and undertake regular reviews of various aspects of the Authority's activities and organisation.

3. 2006/2007 Annual Audit and Inspection Letter

- 3.1 The latest Annual Audit and Inspection Letter reports the Authority's position in relation to the following key areas:
 - Accounts
 - Value for Money Conclusion
 - Best Value and Data Quality
- 3.2 The work carried out by the auditor reflects the audit plan agreed by the Authority and is developed using a risk-based approach.

Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority 7th December 2007

- 3.3 The key recommendations made by the auditor are as follows:
 - The Authority needs to continue work with Partners to formalise partnership arrangements to achieve the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS)
 - The Authority needs to strengthen arrangements between the Authority and Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd for preparing group accounts in 2007/2008.
 - The Authority must ensure reserves are maintained at an adequate level to meet the change agenda.

4. Conclusion

Members are asked to note the findings of the Audit Commission, as presented at this meeting.

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Background documents open to inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 – Nil.