

Action plan to address recommendations of Audit Commission
Community and Housing Committee, 11 November 2010, item 10

Committee: Community and Housing

Agenda Item

Date: 11 November 2010

10

**Title: Action plan to address recommendations
of Audit Commission**

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Item for decision

Summary

1. This report seeks Committee approval of an action plan to address the recommendations of the Audit Commission following its inspection report of the Council's strategic housing services that was published in September 2010.

Recommendations

2. The proposed draft action plan to respond to the Audit Commission's recommendations set out in the Housing Inspection report be approved.
3. Progress on implementing the action plan be reported back to Committee in six months' time.

Financial Implications

4. At this time there are no cost implications for the Council in approving the draft action plan, however there may be resource implications involved in implementing individual actions.
5. The implementation of the value for money/benchmarking recommendation will improve the Council's ability to demonstrate value for money in service delivery, and identify cost effective services and areas for improvement.

Background Papers

6. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

Audit Commission Final Report - the full report can be found on the audit commission website www.auditcommission.gov.uk

The Council's Self Assessment Form.

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Impact

7.

Communication/Consultation	None
Community Safety	None
Equalities	Addressing issues of equality and diversity are integral to the work of the Division and implementing the Audit Commission's recommendations will ensure equality of access for all customers
Health and Safety	None
Human Rights/Legal Implications	The Council has a duty to deliver the Strategic Housing Service
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	The tasks and activities within the recommendation plan will be carried out by existing staff resources, which may impact on other areas of service delivery

Situation

8. Members are aware that in September 2010 the Audit Commission published a report about the Council's strategic housing services. At the last Community and Housing Committee meeting Officers agreed to submit an action plan to address the recommendations in that report. The action plan is attached at Appendix 1 for Members' comment and approval.
9. Whilst the coalition Government has announced plans to disband the Audit Commission, addressing the recommendations in the inspection report remain a priority and will ensure that the strategic housing service continues to improve.

Risk Analysis

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Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Recommendations made by the Audit Commission are not implemented	1 – it is unlikely that the recommendations are not implemented as they will help to ensure that the service continues	2 - Failure by the Council to address the weaknesses set out in the audit commission	Ensure recommendations made in the Audit Commission report are implemented where feasible

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	to improve	report would be highlighted as failure within the strategic housing service in future external audits	
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1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.

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