

Annual Audit Letter Update

Performance Select Committee, 14 June 2006, item 9

Committee:	Performance Select Committee	Agenda Item
Date:	14 June 2006	9
Title:	Annual Audit Letter Update	
Author:	Tracy Turner, Executive Manager (Strategy & Performance), 01799 510402	Item for decision

Summary

The report provides a brief update on progress following the Annual Audit letter.

Recommendations

The Committee note progress made on actions arising from the Annual Audit letter.

Background Papers

Audit Commission Annual Audit Letter

Impact

Communication/Consultation	A workshop is planned to take forward Direction of Travel issues.
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None
Finance	None
Human Rights	None
Legal implications	None
Ward-specific impacts	All
Workforce/Workplace	Issues arising from the annual audit letter are already central to the Corporate Plan and therefore no additional workforce/workplace impact is currently anticipated.

Situation

- 1 At their meeting on 19 April, the Committee agreed (minute 19), in relation to the Annual Audit Letter to recommend to Council:
 - Further development of partnership working
 - Increased focus on procurement best practice
 - A workshop facilitated by the Audit Commission on the Council's Direction of Travel

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- Appointment of Member Champions for key priority areas and improvement initiatives and other action to clarify Member responsibilities.

2 This note seeks to update the Committee on progress.

Corporate Plan Projects

3 The new Corporate Plan 2006-09 incorporates 11 projects and areas of corporate focus. The following Members have been named as Champions for these and are currently working with lead officers in producing work plans for each theme:

Project/Area of Corporate Focus	Member Champion
Implementing the Council's Recycling Strategy	Cllr Alan Thawley
Dealing with the proposals for the expansion of Stansted Airport	Cllr Alan Dean
Progressing the Council's Integrated Customer Management (ICM) process	Cllr Peter Wilcock
User Focus and Community Engagement	Cllr Geoffrey Sell (Cllr Martin Savage for parishes)
Sustainable Council/Climate Change/Nottingham Declaration action plan	Cllr Vanessa Pedder
Equalities & Diversity	Cllr Christine Bayley
People, Performance & Accountability	Cllr Alan Dean
Preparing for 2007	Cllrs Mark Gayler/David Morson
Strategic Partnership Working	Cllr Catherine Dean
Procurement	Cllr Richard Harris
Affordable Housing	Cllr Mike Hibbs

4 Projects on *Strategic Partnership Working* and *Procurement* will pick up issues such as the need for increased partnership working and the adoption of procurement best practice. Council recently agreed to join a procurement shared service, which will be progressed as part of the procurement project.

Direction of Travel Workshop

5 Officers are still in discussion with the Audit Commission over possible dates and format for the Direction of Travel workshop. It is expected that an update on arrangements will be available at the Committee meeting.

Risk Analysis

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Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Issues to be addressed from the Annual Audit Letter are not progressed or completed	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issues taken forward in Corporate Plan and work programmes being produced• Tracking by Performance Select Committee• Direction of Travel workshop proposed