

## AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

26<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2010

### PEER REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT

#### REPORT OF THE HEAD OF CONSORTIUM

CORPORATE AIM	<b>A well managed organisation</b>
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1) **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To provide an opportunity for the Committee to consider the outcome of the peer review of Internal Audit commissioned in 2008 following a recommendation from the Audit Commission.

2) **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 **That the Committee consider the appended report.**

3) **PEER REVIEW**

3.1 The Consortium operates in line with the CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit. The Code requires that the Consortium puts in place arrangements to provide assurance about the quality of its services. It is generally accepted that peer review is the most effective way of providing the necessary assurance. The Consortium is committed to a triennial cycle of peer reviews making use of the Midland Chief Auditors Group to identify suitably qualified Chief Internal Auditors prepared to make the necessary commitment of time. The Audit Commission's recommendation brought forward the date of the first peer review.

3.2 The peer review was undertaken by the Internal Audit Manager of Newark & Sherwood District Council. He has extensive experience of internal audit in local government as Chief Internal Auditor for three district councils. He has also been active in developing the profession's response to developments in local government working with CIPFA/IPF in the development of professional guidance in a number of areas including the conduct of reviews of the effectiveness of internal audit.

3.3 Newark and Sherwood's Internal Audit Manager designed the peer review process and the role of the Consortium's management in the process was limited to the provision of information and evidence. As the subject of the peer review, the Head of Consortium judges it inappropriate to make any comment on the report's conclusions. However it is considered that the report is factually correct.

4) **RISK MANAGEMENT**

<b>RISK</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>Low</b>	No time critical issues arise from this report
<b>Viability</b>	<b>Low</b>	The report does not raise any specific issues
<b>Finance</b>	<b>Low</b>	No financial issues are considered
<b>Profile</b>	<b>Low</b>	No controversial issues are raised
<b>Equality &amp; Diversity</b>	<b>Low</b>	There is no reference to equalities issues

**Background Papers**

None

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