

UPDATE NUMBER TWO ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Report By: AUDIT SERVICES MANAGER

Wards Affected

None.

Purpose

To provide the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee with a further update on progress with implementing the recommendations approved by the Corporate Management Board to improve the internal control environment as a result of the 'lessons learned' from special investigations carried out by Audit Services in 2005/06.

Financial Implications

None directly arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT:

- (a) the updated position be noted; and**
- (b) a further update be provided at the Committee's next meeting.**

Reasons

On 21st September, 2007 the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee considered the Audit Service Manager's report on action taken by Heads of Service on the implementation of recommendations arising from special investigations. At that time there were two Heads of Service who had not replied, with one Head of Service having recommendation (c) as work in progress (Appendix 1 refers).

Considerations

1. A report by the Audit Services Manager entitled Special Investigation Report 2005/06 was presented to Corporate Management Board on 5th September, 2006.
2. Following discussion at Corporate Management Board the report presented was adopted and several recommendations agreed (Appendix 1 refers).

Further information on the subject of this report is available from Tony Ford (Audit Services Manager)
on tel: (01432) 260425

3. The report was presented to Senior Management Team on 8th September, 2006 when Senior Management Team's attention was drawn to the agreed recommendations requiring their attention.
4. As noted in the Annual Assurance Report for 2006/07 presented to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee on 29th June, 2007, feedback from a number of Heads of Service was still outstanding.
5. Following the last update, the Audit Services Manager has informed the Director concerned and stressed the need to be able to confirm to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee that the issues have finally been addressed.
6. The latest position is that replies have now been received from all Heads of Service confirming that they have taken the required actions other than in relation to recommendation (c), which is work in progress for two Heads of Service.

Risk Management

7. The special investigations in 2005/06 identified a risk that Council monies were not being accounted for in line with Financial Regulations. Implementing the recommendations agreed by Corporate Management Board will mitigate this risk.

Background Papers

Audit Services Manager's Special Investigation report to Corporate Management Board dated 5th September, 2006.

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