

Huntingdonshire District Council

Corporate Governance Panel – 30 June 2010 External audit progress report -2009/10 audit

Use of Resources

Following the cessation of the Comprehensive Area Assessment, the Audit Commission wrote to the Council to clarify how this work will be concluded for 2009/10. In respect of the Use of Resources assessment, key points are:

- there will be no score issued for 2009/10 in respect of the use of resources assessment.
- in line with the statutory Code of Audit Practice we are required to give a value for money conclusion alongside our financial statements opinion. We will complete the work considered necessary to enable us to provide this conclusion and we will rely on the work that we have completed to date on the use of resources conclusion to support this opinion.
- we will issue the Council with a report detailing the findings of the work that we completed in respect of the assessment, however, this report will not include any scores.
- we will report any significant findings from our use of resources work in our Annual Audit Letter; however, we will not be reporting a score in the letter.

The Audit Commission is in the process of reviewing the approach that auditors will take in the future to the value for money conclusion from 2010/11.

The Audit Commission has also advised that as the vast majority of the work required for the use of resources of assessment has already been completed and work to support the value for money conclusion still needs to be completed there will be no impact on the audit fees in 2009/10.

Audit of the Financial Statements

Our audit of the financial statements will commence on 2 August. We will continue to work with the Council to prepare for the audit up until this time. We have issued the Council with an audit arrangements letter which outlines our working paper requirements. Prior to the commencement of the audit, we will issue an Audit Approach Memorandum which will outline the key risk areas that we have identified in our work to date and how we will plan our work to address these risks.