

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AUDIT BOARD

13th December 2010

AUDIT COMMISSION VALUE FOR MONEY CONCLUSION 2009/10

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Geoff Denaro Cabinet Member for Finance
Relevant Head of Service	Jayne Pickering, Executive Director Finance and Corporate Resources
Key Decision / Non-Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

1.1 To enable Members to consider the Audit Commission Value for Money Conclusion for 2009/10.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That Members note the value for Money Conclusion report for 2009/10.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Value for Money conclusion formed part of the Use of Resources judgement for 2009/10. The Audit Commission are still required to give a Value for Money conclusion to the Council in respect of 2009/10 despite the Use of Resources judgement ceasing with immediate effect.

4. KEY ISSUES

4.1 The key messages on each of the nine Key Lines of Enquiry applicable to District Councils were considered by the Audit Commission. The details of the findings are included in the Appendix.

4.2 It was recognised that the Council has improved its arrangements in several areas compared with the previous year.

4.3 Specific areas improved included:

- Planning for financial health – demonstrated by the levels of joint and shared arrangements in place
- Understanding costs and achieving efficiencies
- Joint procurement of goods and services
- Data and governance arrangements when working with partners

4.4 The improvements will put the Council in a good position moving forward in realising efficiencies for the future funding limitations.

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5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None other than those covered in this report.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 require that the Council complies with statutory accounting legislation and changes.

7. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None as a result of this report.

8. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES

8.1 Compliance with the accounting standards supports the improvement objective across the Council.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT INCLUDING HEALTH & SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 The Financial Services risk register includes the preparation of the accounts and the controls in place to ensure the accounts are treated in compliance with accounting standards.

10. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS

10.1 None as a direct result of this report.

11. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 None as a direct result of this report.

12. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS, PROCUREMENT AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

12.1 None as a direct result of this report.

13. CLIMATE CHANGE, CARBON IMPLICATIONS AND BIODIVERSITY

13.1 None as a direct result of this report.

14. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

14.1 None as a direct result of this report

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15. GOVERNANCE/PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

15.1 The statement of accounts and the controls in place to ensure the accounts are accurate is key to the effective governance arrangements in place within the Council.

16. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING SECTION 17 OF CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998

16.1 None as a direct result of this report.

17. HEALTH INEQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

17.1 None as a direct result of this report.

18. LESSONS LEARNT

18.1 Officers continue to seek advice from best practice authorities and the Audit Commission recommendations to ensure the accounts are presented in compliant format for consideration.

19. COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

19.1 None as a direct result of this report.

20. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT

Portfolio Holder	Yes
Chief Executive	N/A
Executive Director (S151 Officer)	Yes
Executive Director – Leisure, Cultural, Environmental and Community Services	N/A
Executive Director – Planning & Regeneration, Regulatory and Housing Services	N/A
Director of Policy, Performance and Partnerships	N/A
Head of Service	N/A
Head of Resources	N/A

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Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	N/A
Corporate Procurement Team	N/A

21. WARDS AFFECTED

All wards

22. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Value for Money Conclusion 2009/10

23. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Detailed final accounts working papers.

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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