

**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**AUDIT BOARD**

**16TH MARCH 2009**

**ANNUAL AUDIT AND INSPECTION LETTER 2007/08**

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Councillor Geoff Denaro
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Financial Services

**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Council's Auditor has issued the draft Annual Audit and Inspection Letter for 2007/08 (Appendix A). The final version will be issued on 16<sup>th</sup> March following the release of the CPA report to the Council from the Audit Commission.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 The Board is asked to consider the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter for 2007/08 and, subject to any comments they may wish to make, to accept it.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Attached at Appendix A is the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter for 2007/08 which provides an overall summary of the Audit Commissions assessment of the Council. It draws from information contained within the recent CPA together with any other findings from inspections undertaken since the last letter in 2008.
- 3.2 The report also includes:
- Direction of Travel considerations
  - Strategic Housing Inspection Feedback
  - Audit of the Accounts and Value for Money
  - Data Quality
- 3.3 The findings of the report include the demonstration of clear improvements in performance, strategic housing service provision, customer service and working with partners.
- 3.4 The approach to Value for Money is reported as improving and the allocation of resources to priorities has been developed in a robust framework
- 3.5 Data Quality arrangements were also reported as meeting minimum requirements.
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**4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None

**5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The presentation of the Inspection Letter is a responsibility of the External Auditors under the Audit Commissions Code of Practice

**6. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES**

6.1 Council Objective 02: Improvement.

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

7.1 Addressing the recommendations identified will further support the Councils Use of Resources scoring in ensuring that we have a robust internal control and financial management framework for officers to work within.

**8. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 No customer implications.

**9. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 No equalities and diversity issues.

**10. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

Procurement Issues: None
Personnel Implications: None
Governance/Performance Management: Effective governance process.
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime and Disorder Act 1998: None
Policy: None
Environmental: None

**11. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT**

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Portfolio Holder	Yes
Chief Executive	Yes
Corporate Director (Services)	No
Assistant Chief Executive	No
Head of Service	Yes
Head of Financial Services	Yes
Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	No
Head of Organisational Development & HR	No
Corporate Procurement Team	No

## 12. **APPENDICES**

12.1 Appendix A – Annual Audit and Inspection Letter.

## 13. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

13.1 None.

## **CONTACT OFFICER**

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