# LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

# INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT AND OPINION

2010/11

## **CONTENTS**

| Section |   |
|---------|---|
| 1.      | INTRODUCTION                              |
| 2.      | REVIEW OF INTERNAL CONTROL AND OPINION    |
| 3.      | AUDIT PERFORMANCE AND ADDED VALUE 2010/11 |
| 4.      | AUDIT PLAN 2011/12                        |

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 The Annual Reporting Process

Management is responsible for the system of internal control and should set in place policies and procedures to help ensure that the system is functioning correctly. On behalf of the Corporate Governance & Audit Committee (CG&AC) and the Director of Resources, Internal Audit acts as an assurance function providing an independent and objective opinion to the organisation on the entire control environment by evaluating its effectiveness in achieving the organisation's objectives. It objectively examines, evaluates and reports on the adequacy of the control environment as a contribution to the proper, economic, efficient and effective use of resources.

Internal Audit is part of the Audit & Risk Division of the Resources Directorate. This report is the culmination of the work during the course of the year and seeks to provide an opinion on the adequacy of the control environment and report the incidence of any significant control failings or weaknesses. The report also gives an overview of audit performance during the year and outlines the proposed risk based Internal Audit Plan for 2011/12 for approval by the CG&AC.

#### 1.2 Requirement for Internal Audit

The organisation has a duty to maintain an adequate and effective system of internal audit of its accounting records and of its system of internal control. This role is complemented by initiatives aimed at promoting effective corporate governance.

In 2006, CIPFA published a revised Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government in the UK. The guidance accompanying the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 referred to this code as representing "proper internal audit practices". The Code defines the way in which the internal audit service should be established and undertaken, encompassing organisational and structural aspects.

The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 which came into force on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 and revoke the Accounts and Audit Regulations (England) 2003 maintain the requirement for relevant bodies to have a sound system of internal control and conduct a review at least once a year of the effectiveness of the system of internal control.

| The 2011 regulations require bodies to conduct, at least once a year, a review of the      |
|--|
| effectiveness of their internal audit to consider this as part of the consideration of the |
| system of internal control by a committee of the body, or by the body as a whole.          |

# REVIEW OF INTERNAL CONTROL AND OPINION

This section sets out the opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the control environment, how internal control is reviewed and the basis for the assurance provided in the opinion. It also provides a summary of completed audit reviews.

#### 2.1 Opinion 2010/2011

The Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government in the UK 2006 states that the Head of Audit must provide a written report to those charged with governance timed to support the Statement on Internal Control (now the Annual Governance Statement). This report must include an opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the organisation's control environment, presenting a summary of how that opinion is derived including reliance placed on work by other assurance bodies.

The internal control environment, including the key financial systems, is well established and continues to operate well in practice.

At the time of writing this report there are no outstanding significant issues arising from the work undertaken by internal audit.

However, no system of control can provide absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss, nor can Internal Audit give that assurance.

#### 2.2 How Internal Control is reviewed

Internal Audit continues to embrace the risk assessment approach to audit. During the course of the year the risk map of the Authority has been continually challenged and used to form the basis of Internal Audit's operational plan for the coming year. The review process draws on key indicators of risks to the organisation and attempts to ensure that suitable audit time and resources are devoted to review the more significant areas. The Corporate Risk Register is used as a key source of information during this process. The audit plan contains a contingency provision that is utilised during the year in response to unforeseen work demands that arise. This risk based approach to audit planning results in a comprehensive range of audits that are

undertaken during the course of the year to support the overall opinion on the control environment.

Examples of reviews undertaken include:

- Risk based reviews of all fundamental financial systems that could have a material impact on the accounts (e.g. payroll, creditors);
- Internal Control and Compliance reviews;
- Risk based reviews of departmental systems;
- > Fraud strategy work, responsive fraud and irregularity investigations;
- Procurement audit;
- ➤ Audits of Council establishments (e.g. schools, Social Services establishments, leisure centres.)

There are three elements to each internal audit review. Firstly, the control environment is reviewed by identifying the objectives of the system and then assessing the controls in place mitigating the risk of those objectives not being achieved. Completion of this work enables internal audit to give an assurance on the control environment.

However, controls are not always complied with which in itself will increase risk, so the second part of an audit is to ascertain the extent to which the controls are being complied with in practice. This element of the review enables internal audit to give an opinion on the extent to which the control environment, designed to mitigate risk, is being complied with.

Finally, where there are significant control environment weaknesses or where the controls are not being complied with and only limited assurance can be given, internal audit undertakes further substantive testing to ascertain the impact of these control weaknesses.

To improve consistency in audit reporting, the following definitions of audit assurance are used for all systems and governance audits completed.

#### **Definitions of Audit Assurance**

| Con  | Control Environment Assurance |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|------|-------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Leve | el                            | Definitions   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1    | SUBSTANTIAL<br>ASSURANCE      | There are minimal control weaknesses that present very low risk to the control environment.                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2    | GOOD<br>ASSURANCE             | There are minor control weaknesses that present low risk to the control environment.                            |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3    | ACCEPTABLE<br>ASSURANCE       | There are some control weaknesses that present a medium risk to the control environment.                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4    | LIMITED<br>ASSURANCE          | There are significant control weaknesses that present a high risk to the control environment                    |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5    | NO<br>ASSURANCE               | There are fundamental control weaknesses that present an unacceptable level of risk to the control environment. |  |  |  |  |  |

| Con  | npliance Assurance       |   |
|------|--------------------------|---|
| Leve | el                       | Definitions   |
| 1    | SUBSTANTIAL<br>ASSURANCE | The control environment has substantially operated as intended although some minor errors have been detected. |
| 2    | GOOD<br>ASSURANCE        | The control environment has largely operated as intended although some errors have been detected.             |
| 3    | ACCEPTABLE<br>ASSURANCE  | The control environment has mainly operated as intended although errors have been detected.                   |
| 4    | LIMITED<br>ASSURANCE     | The control environment has not operated as intended. Significant errors have been detected.                  |
| 5    | NO ASSURANCE             | The control environment has fundamentally broken down and is open to significant error or abuse.              |

Organisational impact is reported as either Major, Moderate or Minor. Any reports with major organisational impacts are reported to Corporate Leadership Team along with the appropriate directorate's agreed action plan and then to CG&AC as part of the bi-monthly report.

| Org   | Organisational Impact |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Level |                       | Definitions   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1     | MAJOR                 | The weaknesses identified during the review have left the council open to significant risk. If the risk materialises it would have a major impact upon the organisation as a whole. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2     | MODERATE              | The weaknesses identified during the review have left the council open to medium risk. If the risk materialises it  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|   |       | would have a moderate impact upon the organisation as a whole.   |
|---|-------|--|
| 3 | MINOR | The weaknesses identified during the review have left the council open to low risk. This could have a minor impact on the organisation as a whole. |

The merging of the Business Process Re-engineering (BPR) team into the Section during May 2010 has provided the opportunity to undertake a number of business analysis/efficiency reviews in addition to more traditional value for money (VFM) work. These types of review are in high demand within the authority, particularly with the need for real innovation across the public sector.

The VFM approach used by External Audit includes responsibilities for audited bodies to put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in their use of resources. This approach endorses the use of business process re-engineering techniques to improve processes and structures as an example of one of the characteristics of proper arrangements to improve efficiency and productivity.

Work done on Business Analysis and VFM in Leeds needs to both drive lean systems and give assurances on the control environment. The aim is to achieve four generic outcomes from each review:

- An 'as is' picture of the current system and processes. To include understanding and agreeing key outcomes and reviewing the policies and procedures that drive the culture, eligibility etc.;
- The 'to be' stage. A lean, efficient system where resources are geared towards achieving agreed outcomes and management controls are timely and effective:
- Understanding the sensitivity of change, such as demand, and the service's ability to both achieve agreed outcomes and budget;
- An assurance on the Internal Control Environment. Then internal audit can compliance check key controls.

To ensure this work adds value to the level of overall assurance, it is essential that the team is working on areas of key risk to the organisation.

#### 2.3 Basis of Assurance

The annual opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the control environment for 2010/11 is based on the findings and assurance provided by the schedule of reviews undertaken throughout the year (details of each area of assurance are given below and the summary of completed audit reviews section includes a table of reports issued in the period on which the opinion is based.)

For each area of assurance, there have been instances where the control environment was not strong enough or complied with sufficiently to prevent risks to the organisation. In these cases, Internal Audit has made recommendations to further improve the systems of control and compliance.

Although significant to the control environment in place for the individual system areas that have been audited these weaknesses are not material enough to have a significant impact on the overall opinion on the adequacy of the Council's control environment at the year end.

Further reviews in each area where limited assurance has been given are scheduled to be completed to ensure that the recommendations have been adopted and the suggested controls are working well in practice.

#### 2.3.1 Key Financial Systems

An annual review of each of the authority's key financial systems is undertaken to provide evidence supporting the internal audit opinion on the adequacy of the organisation's control environment.

As in previous years, the key financial systems subject to audit were agreed in advance with the authority's external auditors KPMG as they review this work and use this as a key source of assurance on the organisation. KPMG have reviewed internal audit's work on key financial systems in 2010/11 and have confirmed that it fully meets their requirements in terms of timeliness, quality and supporting evidence. KPMG reported that they:

"have been able to place full reliance on the work undertaken which reduces the impact on other officers at the Authority. We did not identify any significant issues with internal audit's work and are pleased to report that we are again able to place full reliance on internal audit's work of the key financial systems"

Audit coverage during the year has provided sufficient evidence to conclude that the key financial control systems are sound and that, in the main, these controls continue to work well in practice although there are some areas where improvements are necessary. The level of assurance provided for the all key financial systems reviews was acceptable or higher and in all cases an action plan has been agreed with the

appropriate officers that, if implemented, will give substantial control environment assurance.

#### 2.3.2 Cross Cutting Assurances

Internal audit has reviewed a number of key corporate functions which give cross cutting assurances in their own right. These are areas such as procurement, performance management, monitoring of key partnerships, financial management and human resources. These reviews included assessing the arrangements to ensure that their policies and procedures are:

- up to date;
- fit for purpose;
- · effectively communicated;
- routinely complied with across the organisation;
- monitored

These reviews provide evidence based assurance on the key policies and procedures that underpin the control environment. Where weaknesses were identified, action plans were agreed with the appropriate officers to improve the level of assurance provided. There were no significant issues highlighted in these areas.

#### 2.3.3 Internal Control and Compliance

Internal audit work on internal control and compliance is fundamental to the assurance framework as it provides assurance (via a series of compliance checks) on whether key policies and procedures are being complied within practice across all Directorates and is therefore a key element of the annual opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the control environment.

#### 2.3.4 Schools

It is important that each school has an appropriate set of organisational and financial controls in place that Governors can place reliance upon in their responsibility for the financial management of schools. Assurance is required for the Authority that the arrangements in individual schools are adequate and operating effectively.

Internal audit can not review each school every year so a sample of visits are undertaken based on a risk assessment for audit coverage including a number of factors such as time since previous audit.

The reviews provide assurance that schools are operating financial procedures which are in line with current guidelines as set out in Schools' Financial Regulations, Contract Procedure Rules, Audit Commission and OFSTED reports and best practice.

The reviews focus on specific key controls which should be in place to provide assurance that the systems are sound and can be relied upon.

#### 2.3.5 Unannounced visits

A sample of visits covering different types of establishment are carried out each year. These provide assurance over the adequacy of income and cash controls.

#### 2.3.6 Contract Audit

Internal audit provides assurance on individual contracts that contract conditions and objectives/outcomes are being met, value for money is being achieved, contracts are delivered on time, within budget and meet stakeholders' expectations.

#### 2.3.7 Business Analysis/VFM

This area of work involves defining more efficient systems in addition to giving assurances on the internal control environment where possible.

It also provides assurance that there are arrangements within the Authority to improve efficiency and productivity.

During the year, business analysis reviews have been undertaken within Resources, Environment and Neighbourhoods, and Adult Social Care Directorates.

These have identified opportunities for improvements to business processes and provided details of associated potential efficiency savings.

#### 2.3.7 Anti Fraud and Corruption

The anti fraud and corruption work undertaken includes both proactive anti fraud and corruption work (fraud strategies) and reactice work (investigations.)

In addition, internal audit review the Authority's fraud and corruption arrangements to ensure they are in line with best practice. There is a Counter Fraud and Investigations team strategy and Counter Fraud and Corruption Action Plan for proactive and reactive fraud work that includes details of resource implications and prioritises work accordingly to ensure the risk of fraud in managed effectively with available resources. Proactive fraud exercises, duplicate payments work and participation in the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) provide assurance that the Authority is making every effort to detect potential fraud and prevent its recurrence.

This area of audit work also provides assurance on the ethical framework within the Council which seeks to improve standards of conduct. This, combined with staffing policies, should therefore reduce the likelihood of fraud.

#### 2.3.8 Annual Governance Statement (AGS)

In June 2007 CIPFA, in conjunction with the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE), published Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework. The Department for Communities and Local Government has determined that this guidance represents proper practice.

Consequently, the CG&AC should seek assurance that this guidance has been followed to compile the AGS.

Internal Audit reviews the corporate governance evidence framework (Leeds Governance Framework - LGF) to confirm that there is evidence to indicate that policies, procedures and systems are in place for corporate governance to be effective within the Council. Internal Audit has not yet undertaken the review of the LGF but will complete this piece of work shortly.

#### 2.4 Summary of Completed Audit Reviews

This section provides a summary of all reports issued since 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010. The audit reviews completed from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010 were reported to the CG&AC in the Internal Audit Annual Report for 2009/10.

Further reviews in each area where limited assurance has been given are scheduled to be completed to ensure that the recommendations have been adopted and the suggested controls are working well in practice.

|  | Audit Opinion            |                          |                    |                      | Date       |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Report Title   | Control<br>Environment   | Compliance               | Business<br>Impact | Directorate          | Issued     |
| Key Financial Systems  |                          |                          |                    |                      |            |
| Business Support Centre - Central Payments   | Substantial<br>Assurance | Substantial<br>Assurance | Minor              | Resources            | 03/06/2010 |
| Central & Corporate Functions - Sundry Income  | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Moderate           | Resources            | 08/06/2010 |
| Creditors - Adult Social Care  | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Minor              | Adult Social<br>Care | 15/06/2010 |
| Creditors - City Development   | Substantial<br>Assurance | Good<br>Assurance        | Minor              | City<br>Development  | 15/06/2010 |
| General Computer Controls – Financial<br>Management System, SAP, Academy,<br>Powersolve & Income Management System | Substantial<br>Assurance | Substantial<br>Assurance | Minor              | Resources            | 22/06/2010 |
| Financial Management — Central Controls  | Substantial<br>Assurance | Substantial<br>Assurance | Minor              | Resources            | 08/07/2010 |
| Capital Programme Controls   | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Moderate           | Resources            | 09/07/2010 |
| Bank Reconciliation and Cashbook Audit   | Substantial<br>Assurance | Substantial<br>Assurance | Minor              | Resources            | 20/07/2010 |

|   | Audit Opinion            |                         |                    |                                      | Date                       |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Report Title  | Control<br>Environment   | Compliance              | Business<br>Impact | Directorate                          | Issued                     |
| Community Care Homecare – East North East<br>Area Wedge   | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Limited<br>Assurance    | Major              | Adult Social<br>Care                 | 09/08/2010                 |
| Creditors   | Substantial<br>Assurance | Acceptable<br>Assurance | N/A                | Education<br>Leeds                   | 25/08/2010                 |
| Income Management System  | Substantial<br>Assurance | N/A                     | Minor              | Resources                            | 17/12/2010                 |
| Housing Benefits Assessment and Payments  | Substantial<br>Assurance | N/A                     | Minor              | Resources                            | 01/03/2011                 |
| Housing Rents   | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 28/03/2011                 |
| Resources Sundry Income   | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Moderate           | Resources                            | 26/04/2011                 |
| Central Sundry Income   | Substantial<br>Assurance | N/A                     | Minor              | Resources                            | 05/05/2011                 |
| Business Support Centre - Payroll Services  | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance       | Good               | Resources                            | 05/05/2011                 |
| Non Domestic (Business) Rates   | Substantial<br>Assurance | N/A                     | Minor              | Resources                            | 12/05/2011                 |
| Business Analysis and VFM   | I                        |                         | ı                  | I                                    |                            |
| HR Disciplinary Process   |                          | N/A                     |                    | Resources                            | 21/07/2010                 |
| Streetscene Performance Related Pay Process   |                          | N/A                     |                    | Environment &<br>Neighbourhoods      | 09/11/2010                 |
| Housing Options   | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | N/A                     | Minor              | Environment &<br>Neighbourhoods      | 14/12/2010                 |
| Streetscene Performance Related Pay<br>Process Follow Up  |                          | N/A                     |                    | Environment &<br>Neighbourhoods      | 22/12/2010                 |
| Review of IT Equipment Purchasing & Disposal  |                          | N/A                     |                    | Resources                            | 03/02/2011                 |
| Changing The Workplace Environment and<br>Neighbourhoods Face to Face Customer<br>Access Merrion House – Service Readiness          |                          | N/A                     |                    | Environment & Neighbourhoods         | 28/02/2011                 |
| Changing the Workplace: Face to Face<br>Customer Access - Education Leeds School<br>Admissions Service Readiness                    |                          | N/A                     |                    | Education<br>Leeds                   | 13/04/2011                 |
| Purchase to Pay   |                          | N/A                     |                    | Resources                            | 13/04/2011                 |
| Revenues and Benefits Systems Thinking<br>Review  |                          | N/A                     |                    | Resources                            | 19/04/2011                 |
| Adult Social Care As-is Analysis:   |                          |                         |                    |                                      |                            |
| Adults Revewing Team  |                          |                         |                    |                                      |                            |
| Assistive Technology  |                          |                         |                    |                                      |                            |
| Care Communications Centre  |                          | N/A                     |                    | Adult Social<br>Care                 | April 2010 –<br>March 2011 |
| <ul> <li>Finance</li> <li>Financial Assessment and Beneftis         <ul> <li>Team</li> </ul> </li> <li>Safeguarding Unit</li> </ul> |                          |                         |                    | Jaic                                 | iviai GH ZUTT              |
| Internal Control and Compliance   |                          |                         |                    | •                                    |                            |

|  | Audit Opinion            |                          |                    |                                      | Dete           |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Report Title   | Control<br>Environment   | Compliance               | Business<br>Impact | Directorate                          | Date<br>Issued |
| Children and Young People's Social (CYPSC) Care Service - Placement Payments           | Limited<br>Assurance     | N/A                      | Moderate           | Children's<br>Services               | 08/06/2010     |
| Adult Social Care - purchase orders  | N/A                      | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Minor              | Adult Social<br>Care                 | 17/06/2010     |
| Environment & Neighbourhoods - purchase orders   | N/A                      | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 17/06/2010     |
| Adult Social Care Budget Pressures <sup>1</sup>  | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Limited<br>Assurance     | Major              | Adult Social<br>Care                 | 26/06/2010     |
| Chapeltown Children's Centre   | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Minor              | Children's<br>Service                | 28/06/2010     |
| Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Compliance Audit                                       | Limited<br>Assurance     | Good<br>Assurance        | Moderate           | Chief Executive                      | 13/07/2010     |
| Area Committees  | Good<br>Assurance        | N/A                      | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 15/07/2010     |
| Suffolk Court care Home for Older People follow up                                     | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Limited<br>Assurance     | Minor              | Adult Social<br>Care                 | 23/07/2010     |
| Environmental Audit System — Systems<br>Based Audit                                    | Substantial<br>Assurance | Substantial<br>Assurance | Minor              | City<br>Development                  | 28/07/2010     |
| Leeds Early Years/Integrated Youth Support<br>Service— Follow up Audit                 | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | N/A                      | N/A                | Children's<br>Service                | 28/07/2010     |
| Local Enterprise Growth Initiative Performance Indicator                               | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Limited<br>Assurance     | Minor              | City<br>Development                  | 04/08/2010     |
| Claims and Compliance Section — Follow Up Review                                       | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | N/A                      | N/A                | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 04/08/2010     |
| National Indicator 131 – Delayed transfers of care from hospitals                      | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Minor              | Adult Social<br>Care                 | 05/08/2010     |
| Rents and Leases   | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Minor              | City<br>Development                  | 06/08/2010     |
| National Indicator 145 - Adults with learning disabilities in settled accommodation.   | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Limited<br>Assurance     | Minor              | Adult Social<br>Care                 | 14/09/2010     |
| Members' Allowances  | Substantial<br>Assurance | Substantial<br>Assurance | Minor              | Chief Executive                      | 15/09/2010     |
| Major adaptations (Private Homes) Follow Up Review                                     | Good<br>Assurance        | Substantial<br>Assurance | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 25/10/2010     |
| Key Performance Indicator NI61 - timeliness of placement for adoptions follow up Audit | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance        | N/A                | Children's<br>Service                | 09/11/2010     |
| Care Ring Follow Up Review   | Limited<br>Assurance     | Limited<br>Assurance     | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 09/11/2010     |
| Children's Services – Key Performance<br>Indicators Review                             | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Minor              | Children's<br>Service                | 07/12/2010     |
| Human Resources File Review  | Good<br>Assurance        | Limited<br>Assurance     | Moderate           | Resources                            | 08/12/2010     |
| Financial Monitoring of Direct Payments and personalised budgets                       | Good<br>Assurance        | N/A                      | Minor              | Adult Social<br>Care                 | 11/02/2011     |
| Corporate Property Management Services - Repairs and Maintenance                       | Limited<br>Assurance     | Limited<br>Assurance     | Minor              | Resources                            | 21/03/2011     |

Reported to CG&AC in the Internal Audit Annual Report 2009/10

|   | Audit Opinion            |                         |                    |                                      | Date       |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Report Title  | Control<br>Environment   | Compliance              | Business<br>Impact | Directorate                          | Issued     |
| Central Interpretation and Translation Unit   | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | N/A                     | Minor              | Chief Executive                      | 05/05/2011 |
| Key & Major Decisions follow up Audit   | Good<br>Assurance        | N/A                     | Minor              | Resources                            | 11/05/2011 |
| Contract Audit  |                          |                         |                    |                                      |            |
| Beeston Phase 5 Group Repairs Audit   | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 03/06/2010 |
| Review of Swarcliffe Private Finance Initiative   | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Moderate           | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 08/06/2010 |
| East Leeds Link Road Contract Audit   | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Moderate           | City<br>Development                  | 20/08/2010 |
| Open Book Review Youth Services Provider  | Limited                  | No<br>Assurance         | Moderate           | Children's<br>Services               | 05/04/2011 |
| Cross Cutting Assurances  |                          |                         |                    |                                      |            |
| Procurement Unit Central Controls   | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Moderate           | Chief Executive                      | 04/08/2010 |
| Central Monitoring of Key Partnerships.   | Good<br>Assurance        | N/A                     | N/A                | Chief Executive                      | 24/08/2010 |
| Annual Governance Statement   | Good<br>Assurance        | N/A                     | Minor              | Chief Executive                      | 01/09/2010 |
| Framework for developing central Human<br>Resources & Employment Policies and<br>Procedures | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Minor              | Resources                            | 20/01/2011 |
| ICT   |                          |                         |                    |                                      |            |
| Orchard & PS Team System General<br>Computer Controls                                       | Substantial<br>Assurance | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 22/06/2010 |
| Unannounced Visits  |                          |                         |                    |                                      |            |
| Temple Newsam Tearooms  | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | City<br>Development                  | 01/06/2010 |
| South Leeds Athletics and Bowls Centre  | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance       | Moderate           | City<br>Development                  | 06/07/2010 |
| Aireborough Leisure Centre  | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Moderate           | City<br>Development                  | 06/07/2010 |
| Rothwell Leisure Centre   | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Moderate           | City<br>Development                  | 06/07/2010 |
| Bewerley Croft Audit Report   | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Minor              | Adult Social<br>Care                 | 26/07/2010 |
| Knowle Manor Audit Report   | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Minor              | Adult Social<br>Care                 | 12/11/2010 |
| Middleton Leisure Centre  | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | City<br>Development                  | 17/11/2010 |
| Kirkland House Home for Older People  | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Minor              | Adult Social<br>Care                 | 25/11/2010 |
| Schools   |                          |                         |                    |                                      |            |

|   | Audit Opinion            |                          |                    |                             | Date       |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Report Title  | Control<br>Environment   | Compliance               | Business<br>Impact | Directorate                 | Issued     |
| Thorner Chuch of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School      | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 08/06/2010 |
| Roundhay School Technology and Language College                   | Substantial<br>Assurance | Substantial<br>Assurance | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 08/06/2010 |
| Gildersome Primary School Internal Audit follow-up review         | Good<br>Assurance        | Substantial<br>Assurance | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 15/06/2010 |
| Mill Field Primary School   | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Good<br>Assurance        | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 26/06/2010 |
| Swinnow Primary School  | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 26/06/2010 |
| Harewood Church of England Voluntary<br>Controlled Primary School | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance        | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 13/07/2010 |
| Broadgate Primary School  | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 13/07/2010 |
| Lower Wortley Primary School                                      | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance        | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 19/07/2010 |
| Lady Elizabeth Hastings' Church of England Primary Thorp Arch     | Good<br>Assurance        | Substantial<br>Assurance | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 20/07/2010 |
| Bramhope Primary School   | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance        | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 27/07/2010 |
| Low Road Primary  | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance        | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 13/09/2010 |
| Ingram Road Primary School  | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 21/09/2010 |
| Woodkirk High School  | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance        | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 21/09/2010 |
| Micklefield Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary        | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance        | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 22/09/2010 |
| Bruntcliffe High School   | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance        | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 24/09/2010 |
| Parkland Girls' High Follow Up                                    | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Substantial<br>Assurance | N/A                | Education<br>Leeds          | 23/11/2010 |
| Moor Allerton Primary School                                      | Substantial<br>Assurance | Good<br>Assurance        | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 20/01/2011 |
| Cookridge Holy Trinity  | Substantial<br>Assurance | Good<br>Assurance        | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 11/02/2011 |
| Primrose High School Follow Up                                    | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | Acceptable<br>Assurance  | N/A                | Education<br>Leeds          | 16/03/2011 |
| Blackgates Primary School Audit & School Voluntary Funds Audit    | Good<br>Assurance        | Acceptable               | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 08/04/2011 |
| Boston Spa School   | Good<br>Assurance        | Good<br>Assurance        | Minor              | Education<br>Leeds          | 16/05/2011 |
| Financial Management Standard in Schools                          | Visits                   | 1                        | •                  |                             |            |
| Allerton Bywater Primary School                                   | Pass                     | Pass                     | N/A                | FMSIS<br>Education<br>Leeds | 08/06/2010 |
| Shadwell Primary School   | Pass                     | Pass                     | N/A                | FMSIS<br>Education<br>Leeds | 08/06/2010 |
| Swillington Primary School  | Pass                     | Pass                     | N/A                | FMSIS<br>Education<br>Leeds | 08/06/2010 |

|  | Audit Opinion           |                         |                    |                                      | Date       |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Report Title   | Control<br>Environment  | Compliance              | Business<br>Impact | Directorate                          | Issued     |
| Gildersome Primary School  | Pass                    | Pass                    | N/A                | FMSIS<br>Education<br>Leeds          | 08/06/2010 |
| Mount St Mary's Primary Closing Audit                              | Fail                    | Fail                    | N/A                | FMSIS<br>Education<br>Leeds          | 08/06/2010 |
| Rothwell CoE Voluntary Controlled Primary                          | Pass                    | Pass                    | N/A                | FMSIS<br>Education<br>Leeds          | 23/06/2010 |
| BESD SILC — Elmete Central Follow Up                               | Pass                    | Pass                    | N/A                | FMSIS<br>Education<br>Leeds          | 23/06/2010 |
| Bramham Primary School   | Pass                    | Pass                    | N/A                | FMSIS<br>Education<br>Leeds          | 23/06/2010 |
| Bruntcliffe High School  | Conditional<br>Pass     | Conditional<br>Pass     | N/A                | FMSIS<br>Education<br>Leeds          | 24/09/2010 |
| Lawnswood High School  | Pass                    | Pass                    | N/A                | FMSIS<br>Education<br>Leeds          | 25/11/2010 |
| Drighlington Primary School  | Pass                    | Pass                    | N/A                | FMSIS<br>Education<br>Leeds          | 25/11/2010 |
| Bruntcliffe High School  | Pass                    | Pass                    | N/A                | FMSIS<br>Education<br>Leeds          | 25/11/2010 |
| Strategic Landlord Assurance Framework Ro                          | eviews                  | 1                       | •                  |                                      |            |
| Key Performance Indicators   | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 12/10/2010 |
| Lettings Enforcement   | Good<br>Assurance       | N/A                     | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 14/10/2010 |
| Aire Valley Homes Leeds – Procurement                              | Limited<br>Assurance    | Limited<br>Assurance    | Moderate           | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 25/10/2010 |
| West North West Homes Leeds – Key<br>Policies — Rent Arrears       | Good<br>Assurance       | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 02/11/2010 |
| Key Policies: Rent Arrears   | Good<br>Assurance       | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 09/11/2010 |
| Belle Isle Tenancy Management Organisation (BITMO) Leeds Q1 and Q2 | N/A                     | Limited<br>Assurance    | Moderate           | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 09/11/2010 |
| Asset Management Responsive Repairs — BITMO                        | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 11/11/2010 |
| Rent Arrears — BITMO   | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 16/11/2010 |
| East North East Homes Leeds Q1 and Q2                              | N/A                     | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 18/11/2010 |
| Aire Valley Homes Leeds  | Good<br>Assurance       | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | Environment and Neighbourhoods       | 19/11/2010 |
| Procurement Quarter 1 BITMO  | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Limited<br>Assurance    | Moderate           | Environment and Neighbourhoods       | 03/12/2010 |

|   | Audit Opinion           |                         |                    |                                      | Date       |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Report Title  | Control<br>Environment  | Compliance              | Business<br>Impact | Directorate                          | Issued     |
| West North West Homes Leeds Q1 and Q2                                     | N/A                     | Limited<br>Assurance    | Moderate           | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 07/12/2010 |
| Key Performance Indicators — BITMO  | Good<br>Assurance       | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 15/12/2010 |
| Asset Management Consultation — Belle Isle Tenant Management Organisation | Good<br>Assurance       | N/A                     | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 21/12/2010 |
| Aire Valley Homes Leeds (AVHL) Lettings                                   | N/A                     | Limited<br>Assurance    | Moderate           | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 23/12/2010 |
| Key Policies Aire Valley Homes Rent Arrears                               | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 18/01/2011 |
| Asset Management Consultation West North West Homes                       | Good<br>Assurance       | N/A                     | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 20/01/2011 |
| Key Performance Indicators West North West Homes                          | Good<br>Assurance       | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 20/01/2011 |
| East North East Homes   | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 26/01/2011 |
| Gas Strategic East North East Homes                                       | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Limited<br>Assurance    | Moderate           | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 15/02/2011 |
| Asset Management Gas Servicing West North West Homes                      | Good<br>Assurance       | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Moderate           | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 15/02/2011 |
| West North West Homes - Tenancy<br>Enforcement                            | N/A                     | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 17/02/2011 |
| Safeguarding BITMO  | Good<br>Assurance       | N/A                     | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 22/02/2011 |
| Tenancy Enforcement BITMO   | N/A                     | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 22/02/2011 |
| East North East Homes Procurement   | Good<br>Assurance       | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 21/03/2011 |
| East North East Homes Management Consultation                             | Acceptable<br>Assurance | N/A                     | Minor              | Environment<br>and<br>Neighbourhoods | 21/03/2011 |
| Aire Valley Homes Tenancy Enforcement                                     | N/A                     | Acceptable              | Minor              | Environment &<br>Neighbourhoods      | 04/04/2011 |
| East North East Homes Assurance Framework Keystones                       | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | Environment &<br>Neighbourhoods      | 26/04/2011 |
| Procurement Q3 Aire Valley Homes  | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | Environment & Neighbourhoods         | 04/05/2011 |
| Aire Valley Homes Corporate Governance                                    | Good<br>Assurance       | N/A                     | Minor              | Environment & Neighbourhoods         | 04/05/2011 |
| BITMO Procurement Q3  | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Acceptable<br>Assurance | Moderate           | Environment &<br>Neighbourhoods      | 04/05/2011 |
| East North East Homes Key Policies Safeguarding                           | Good<br>Assurance       | N/A                     | Minor              | Environment & Neighbourhoods         | 09/05/2011 |
| East North East Homes Lettings Q3&4                                       | N/A                     | Good<br>Assurance       | Minor              | Environment & Neighbourhoods         | 11/05/2011 |

| Donald Title                      | Audit Opinion            |                         |                    |                    | Date       |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Report Title                      | Control<br>Environment   | Compliance              | Business<br>Impact | Directorate        | Issued     |
| Education Leeds                   |                          |                         |                    |                    |            |
| Corporate Governance Review       | Good<br>Assurance        | N/A                     | N/A                | Education<br>Leeds | 26/06/2010 |
| Education Leeds – Creditors       | Substantial<br>Assurance | Acceptable<br>Assurance | N/A                | Education<br>Leeds | 04/04/2011 |
| Education Leeds - Payroll Systems | Substantial<br>Assurance | Good<br>Assurance       | N/A                | Education<br>Leeds | 26/04/2011 |

# AUDIT PERFORMANCE AND ADDED VALUE 2010/2011

#### 3.1 ENSURING QUALITY

Internal Audit is committed to delivering a quality product to the highest professional standards that adds value to our customers. We actively monitor our performance in a number of areas and encourage feedback from customers.

All our work is undertaken in accordance with our quality management system; we have now been ISO accredited for over fourteen years.

A customer satisfaction questionnaire (CSQ) is issued with every audit report. The questionnaires ask for the auditees opinion on a range of issues and asks for an assessment ranging from 5 (for excellent) to 1 (for poor). The results are based on the percentage of those assessments that are 3 (satisfactory) or above. The results of the questionnaires are reported to the Audit Management Team and used to determine areas for improvement and inform the continuing personal development training programme for Internal Audit staff. The results are also benchmarked with other core cities who have adopted the same questionnaire.

Also shown in the table are the percentage scores of 4 or above (good and excellent) to further identify marginal areas for improvement.

Table 4 - Results from Customer Satisfaction Questionnaires

| Question      | Actual<br>2009/10<br>%<br>Score 3 or<br>above | Actual<br>2009/10<br>%<br>Score 4 or<br>above | Actual 2010/11 % Score 3 or above | Actual 2010/11 % Score 4 or above |
|---------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Notice        | 100   | 98  | 100                               | 95                                |
| Scope         | 98  | 82  | 98                                | 83                                |
| Understanding | 96  | 85  | 93                                | 81                                |
| Efficiency    | 100   | 98  | 100                               | 90                                |
| Consultation  | 98  | 91  | 98                                | 90                                |

The Annual Internal Audit Report 2010/2011

| Question               | Actual<br>2009/10<br>%<br>Score 3 or<br>above | Actual<br>2009/10<br>%<br>Score 4 or<br>above | Actual 2010/11 % Score 3 or above | Actual 2010/11 % Score 4 or above |
|------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Professional/Objective | 100   | 100   | 98                                | 95                                |
| Accuracy of Draft      | 96  | 85  | 95                                | 87                                |
| Opportunity to comment | 100   | 94  | 98                                | 93                                |
| Clarity & Conciseness  | 96  | 95  | 95                                | 90                                |
| Recommendations        | 96  | 91  | 95                                | 78                                |
| Final Report – Prompt  | 94  | 85  | 97                                | 80                                |
| Added Value            | 94  | 83  | 98                                | 78                                |

Feedback from customer satisfaction questionnaires continues to be very positive. These results are again extremely encouraging, particularly as the nature and complexity of work undertaken by Internal Audit continues to change. The Council is continually developing more robust systems for identifying and evaluating the significant risks to their objectives. Internal Audit is expected to give a number of assurances on the internal control environment to both internal and external clients not just on financial but operational, service and reputational risks. The staffing skills and resources within Internal Audit are continually adapting to these changes.

Internal audit is a professional discipline and as such it is desirable that all staff should have an appropriate professional qualification or be under training contracts to gain such a professional qualification. A high percentage of our staff are professionally qualified or under professional training contracts. This professional training approach is being actively enhanced by both in-house training and individual officers undertaking Continuing Professional Development in their own time. This investment in staff will continue to result in even better audit performance in future years, ensuring that the Section will be able to react positively to the changing demands being placed on the audit profession.

Internal audit has been part of the core cities benchmarking club for over ten years – consistently being a high performer across a whole range of key cost and quality measures. Examples include cost per audit day and percentage of productive time as well as customer questionnaires and perceptions of added value.

Internal audit has a portfolio of work won in open competition. This includes partners wholly owned by the organisation, such as ALMOs, as well as other public sector service providers.

During the year the Section again completed the key reviews necessary to enable KPMG to rely upon internal audit work for opinion purposes. KPMG concluded that:

"We have a strong working relationship with the Internal Audit team at the Authority and again have been able to place full reliance on the work undertaken which reduces the impact on other officers at the Authority. We did not identify any significant issues with internal audit's work and are pleased to report that we are again able to place full reliance on internal audit's work of the key financial systems. We particularly noted improvements in terms of the quality of system documentation"

#### 3.2 QUALITY STANDARD ACCREDITATION

During January 2011 an independent review was undertaken of Internal Audit's quality system to ensure compliance with the new ISO 9001:2008 standard. The review team conducted a process-based audit, focusing on significant aspects/risks/objectives required by the standard. The review team concluded that;

"The section has established and maintained its management system in line with the requirements of the standard and demonstrated the ability of the system to systematically achieve agreed requirements for products and services within the scope and the organisation's policy and objectives"

The next review visit is due on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

#### 3.3 CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In a rapidly changing environment it is important that all Internal Auditors are kept abreast of the latest audit and accounting methodologies, changes in legislation and best practice as well as changes to the public sector arena so they have the necessary skills and knowledge to perform their role to a high standard. This is done via Continuing Professional Development (CPD) which the Section continues to support and promote via in-house training courses and external CPD events such as CIPFA seminars. Much of this CPD is done in officers own time showing a personal commitment to continual improvement of the Team.

The Code of Practice for Internal Audit in local Government in the UK 2006 states that Internal Audit staff have a personal responsibility to undertake a programme of CPD to maintain and develop their competence. At Leeds, evidence of professional

training and development activities must be retained and individual/group training needs identified.

#### 3.4 WHISTLE BLOWING

Internal Audit continues to act as the custodians of the Council's Whistleblowing Policy. In 2010/11, Internal Audit dealt with a total of 113 (91, 2009/10) potential irregularity referrals. All reported irregularities were risk assessed by Internal Audit and where appropriate an audit investigation undertaken. Where it was more appropriate to do, the matter was referred to directorates and follow up was undertaken.

To further demonstrate the Council's commitment to safeguarding public funds internal audit externally publicises an email address (<a href="mailto:concerns@leeds.gov.uk">concerns@leeds.gov.uk</a>) where potential irregularities can be reported. This will continue to be undertaken via the Council's internet site and inclusion in the 'Your Money' supplement of the Leeds newspaper.

#### 3.5 CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES

Internal Audit has continued to be pro-active in offering advice to officers on the application of Contract Procedure Rules (CPR). When these rules cannot be fully complied with a waiver is sought and through this process Internal Audit provides clear, risk based recommendations to Directors, advising on how to progress that particular procurement. More importantly, we work with departmental officers to examine ways to prevent re-occurrence and secure both best value and transparency.

Advice has been given on procurements during the year ranging from only a few thousand pounds to multi-million pound contracts. This type of timely advice has reduced the risk to which the Council has been exposed when procuring goods and services.

#### 3.6 OPEN BOOK REVIEWS

Internal audit has once again had success in open book reviews of the Council's suppliers in 2010/11. This success has been a driver in prompting the section to examine ways that resources can be used to create a 'hub of excellence' that not only undertakes its own open book reviews but also works with other officers in the Council to improve this important skill. A number of days have been included in the internal audit operational plan for procurement, monitoring and improvement within which it is hoped that internal audit will be able to continue this important area of work.

## **AUDIT PLAN 2011/2012**

#### 4.1 Background

The Head of Audit must provide an annual opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the organisation's entire control environment. To support this internal audit must deliver a risk based plan that includes an appropriate and comprehensive range of work, sufficiently robust to confirm that all assurances provided can be relied upon by the CG&AC.

To develop this plan, there must be a sound understanding of the risks facing the Council. The Corporate Risk Register is used as a key source of information during this process as is the internal audit risk assessment of the Authority which is updated during the year and used to form the basis of the internal audit plan.

The audit plan has been reviewed and challenged by Audit Management Team, the Chief Officer (Audit and Risk) and the Director of Resources & Deputy Chief Executive and revised where necessary.

#### 4.2 The Annual Plan

Internal audit has developed a comprehensive list of potential review areas across the organisation.

There are a number key systems that are considered of sufficient risk to be automatically included in the audit plan each year. These systems are agreed in advance with KPMG and are used as the basis by which KPMG are able to place reliance upon Internal Audit work. These systems are generally the ones that have the highest financial risk.

There are also a number of areas where the cumulative risks are assessed as having a level of in year risk that dictates they must be included in the Plan. These are generally establishment based reviews, for example schools or areas such as procurement. Again, resources are automatically allocated to these areas to ensure there is some coverage in the year.

As highlighted in the February 2011 Internal Audit Report, the impact of the Government's Spending Review – in terms of reduction in government funding and significant cost pressures in setting budgets - has already been felt by internal audit, particularly in terms of available resources and the type of work undertaken. In response to the changing environment additional days have been allocated to value for money (particularly business analysis) type work within the 2011/12 audit plan,

which has resulted in a planned 2178 days being allocated in the plan for this area of work. This includes resources from the BPR staff who transferred across to the Section during May 2010.

The planning process for 2011/12 has necessitated a thorough evaluation of the appropriate level and scope of coverage required to give stakeholders, including the CG&AC, an appropriate level of assurance on the control environment of the Council. More importantly, an on-going re-evaluation of this will be required throughout the year. On a quarterly basis, the audit plan will be re-assessed and resources re-prioritised towards the areas of highest risk. This will be reported to the CG&AC as part of the bi-monthly reporting process.

#### 4.3 How assurance can be given

The following section provides details of the key areas of the audit plan for 2011/12:

#### 4.3.1 Internal Control and Compliance

The 2011/12 audit plan includes internal control and compliance work which is fundamental to the assurance framework as it provides assurance across all Directorates and therefore underpins the Head of Internal Audit opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's control environment.

This area of work involves a series of internal control and compliance checks across the organisation to provide assurance on whether key policies and procedures are being complied with in practice.

#### 4.3.2 Cross Cutting Assurances

Internal audit will also review a number of key corporate functions, which will also give 'cross cutting' assurances to the CG&AC. These are areas such as: procurement, performance management, monitoring of key partnerships, and human resources. These reviews will include assessing the arrangements to ensure that their polices and procedures are:

- o up to date;
- o fit for purpose;
- effectively communicated;
- o routinely complied with across the organisation;
- o and monitored.

These reviews will provide an evidence based assurance on those key policies and procedures that underpin the control environment.

#### 4.3.3 Key Financial Systems

This is the traditional area of internal audit work and very much focuses on providing the Section 151 officer assurance that "the Council has made arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs". This will cover key expenditure systems such as payroll and creditors and income areas such as council tax and rents. These reviews also give an opinion as to the effectiveness of financial management procedures and the arrangements to ensure the integrity of accounts.

#### 4.3.4 Business Analysis and Value for Money

This is an area with increasing demand across the organisation with Directorates seeking ways to improve efficiency and productivity. Business analysis and vfm reviews seek to gain an understanding of the current systems and processes within a specific service and produce proposals for leaner, more efficient systems where resources are geared towards achieving agreed outcomes and management controls are timely and effective, whilst understanding the sensitivity of change, such as demand and how this would impact on a service's ability to achieve agreed outcomes within budget.

The aim is also for business analysis review to provide an assurance on the internal control environment, where appropriate, which internal audit can use to compliance check key controls.

The time allocated in the audit plan for 2011/12 for this area will include business analysis reviews and value for money reviews. These types of reviews will continue to be in demand as the Council addresses the impact of staff reductions and continues to embed the VFM culture. Business analysis projects have already been planned in the following areas:

- Children's Services
- Adult Social Care
- Changing the Workplace: Customer Access
- Projects included within Business Transformation work programmes such as Electronic Document and Records Management System (EDRMS)

Underpinning this must be a team of auditors equipped with the necessary skills and competencies that will allow stakeholders to rely upon their work. In addition, the Head of Audit must be satisfied that any other assurances taken into account are the result of a robust process and evidence based. For most assurances this will require an internal audit review.

#### 4.4 Conclusion

The 2010/11 audit plan has, as a base, used the tried and tested risk based approach to prioritising internal audit work.

Progress against the plan will be monitored throughout the year and key issues reported to the Director of Resources, and the Chief Officer (Audit & Risk). The Head of Audit will report key issues arising from this work to the CG&AC in the bimonthly and annual reports as a minimum.

The proposed 2011/12 annual audit plan is attached below that details the individual review areas planned.

Given the constantly changing environment, this plan will be subject to continuous review as changes in relative priorities of jobs already included and risks emerging throughout the year will need to be addressed. On a quarterly basis, changes to the audit plan from the re-prioritisation of resources and audit reviews will be reported to the CG&AC. For example, in the first quarter audit work is underway in both Adult Social Care, Childrens Services and Procurement.

## INTERNAL AUDIT OPERATIONAL PLAN 2011/12

#### Summary by Assurance Block

|   |      | % of total assurance |
|---|------|----------------------|
| Assurance Block                         | Days | days                 |
| Financial Systems                       | 805  | 10%                  |
| Contingency                             | 770  | 10%                  |
| Fraud and Corruption                    | 922  | 12%                  |
| Head of Audit Assurances                | 54   | 1%                   |
| ICT and Data Mining                     | 530  | 7%                   |
| Internal Control and Compliance         | 1400 | 18%                  |
| Policies and Procedures                 | 52   | 1%                   |
| Procurement, Monitoring and Improvement | 915  | 12%                  |
| Schools                                 | 140  | 2%                   |
| Unannounced Visits                      | 100  | 1%                   |
| Business Analysis and VFM               | 2178 | 28%                  |
| Total Assurance Days                    | 7866 |                      |

In addition to the days allocated for the assurance blocks listed above, the audit plan also includes days for the following:

| Audit Area                     | Days |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Total Corporate Working Groups | 90   |
| Total External Contracts       | 324  |

## Internal Audit Operational Plan 2011/12 - Detailed Reviews by Type

| Audit  |     | Assurance Block              | Directorate                     |
|--|-----|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2 "  |     |                              |                                 |
| Councillor Overice                                 | 40  | Continuonau                  | Cantingangu                     |
| Councillor Queries                                 | 10  | Contingency                  | Contingency                     |
| Follow-ups   | 100 | Contingency                  | Contingency                     |
| General Contingency                                | 600 | Contingency                  | Contingency                     |
| Jobs less than 0.5 day                             | 60  | Contingency                  | Contingency                     |
| Total Contingency                                  | 770 |                              |                                 |
| Counter Fraud and Corruption                       |     |                              |                                 |
| Counter Fraud Strategies                           | 200 | Counter Fraud and Corruption | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Ethical Standards Framework                        | 50  | Counter Fraud and Corruption | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Fraud and Corruption Return                        | 5   | Counter Fraud and Corruption | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Fraud Flashes/Warning Bulletins                    | 5   | Counter Fraud and Corruption | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Fraud Investigations                               | 600 | Counter Fraud and Corruption | Contingency                     |
| Money Laundering                                   | 10  | Counter Fraud and Corruption | Cross- Cutting                  |
| National Fraud Initiative                          | 40  | Counter Fraud and Corruption | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Police Enquiries/Liaison                           | 10  | Counter Fraud and Corruption | Cross- Cutting                  |
| RIPA Queries/Liaison                               | 2   | Counter Fraud and Corruption | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Total Counter Fraud and Corruption                 | 922 |                              |                                 |
|  |     |                              |                                 |
| Financial Systems                                  |     |                              |                                 |
| Bank Reconciliation & Cash Book                    | 25  | Financial Systems            | Central and Corporate Functions |
| Capital Programme Controls                         | 20  | Financial Systems            | Central and Corporate Functions |
| Community Care                                     | 50  | Financial Systems            | Adult Social Care               |
| Council Tax  | 30  | Financial Systems            | Central and Corporate Functions |
| Creditors  | 90  | Financial Systems            | Central and Corporate Functions |
| Housing Benefits                                   | 90  | Financial Systems            | Central and Corporate Functions |
| Housing Rents                                      | 25  | Financial Systems            | Environment and Neighbourhoods  |
| Income Management System                           | 25  | Financial Systems            | Central and Corporate Functions |
| Integrity of Accounts                              | 30  | Financial Systems            | Central and Corporate Functions |
| Key Financial Systems - General Computer Controls  | 20  | Financial Systems            | Central and Corporate Functions |
| Key Financial Systems - Year - End Reconciliations | 40  | Financial Systems            | Central and Corporate Functions |
| Non Domestic Rates                                 | 25  | Financial Systems            | Central and Corporate Functions |

| Audit  |            | Assurance Block                        | Directorate                           |
|--|------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| SAP Payroll  | 110        | Financial Systems                      | Cross- Cutting                        |
| Sundry Income  | 80         | Financial Systems                      | Cross- Cutting                        |
| Treasury Management & Bankline   | 25         | Financial Systems                      | Central and Corporate Functions       |
| Directorate Financial Management                                       | 100        | Financial Systems                      | Cross- Cutting                        |
| Financial Management Central Controls                                  | 20         | Financial Systems                      | Central and Corporate Functions       |
| Total Financial Systems  | 805        | •                                      | Contract and Conportation and another |
| - Total Timanolal Gyeleme  |            |  |                                       |
| Head of Audit Assurances   |            |  |                                       |
| Annual Governance Statement (AGS) - Report                             | 3          | Head of Audit<br>Assurances            | Cross- Cutting                        |
| Further Education  | 5          | Head of Audit<br>Assurances            | Cross- Cutting                        |
| Interreg   | 1          | Head of Audit<br>Assurances            | Adult Social Care                     |
| Leeds City Region  | 5          | Head of Audit Assurances               | Central and Corporate Functions       |
| Lord Mayors Charity  | 10         | Head of Audit Assurances Head of Audit | Central and Corporate Functions       |
| Money Laundering - Report  | 3          | Assurances Head of Audit               | Central and Corporate Functions       |
| Other Assurances Contingency   | 20         | Assurances Head of Audit               | Cross- Cutting                        |
| West Yorkshire Pension Fund  | 5          | Assurances Head of Audit               | Central and Corporate Functions       |
| West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority                          | 2          | Assurances                             | Central and Corporate Functions       |
| Total Head of Audit Assurances   | 54         |  |                                       |
| ICT and Data Mining  |            |  |                                       |
| ICT and Data Mining  Data Matching (Formerly Data Driven Intelligence) | 400        | ICT and Data Mining                    | Cross Cutting                         |
| ICT Central Health Check   | 50         | ICT and Data Mining                    | Cross- Cutting Resources              |
| ICT Key Projects   | 80         | ICT and Data Mining                    | Resources                             |
| Total ICT and Data Mining  | <b>530</b> | 101 and Data Willing                   | Resources                             |
| Total ICT and Data Milling   | 330        |  |                                       |
| Internal Control and Compliance  |            |  |                                       |
| Compliance Visits - Contingency  | 800        | Internal Control and Compliance        | Cross- Cutting                        |
| Strategic Landlord/ALMO Partnership Assurance Programme                | 600        | Internal Control and<br>Compliance     | Environment and Neighbourhoods        |
| Total Internal Control and Compliance                                  | 1400       |  |                                       |
|  |            |  |                                       |
| Policies and Procedures  |            |  |                                       |
| Anti Fraud and Corruption Policy                                       | 2          | Policies and Procedures                | Cross- Cutting                        |
| Contracts Procedure Rules Update                                       | 5          | Policies and Procedures                | Cross- Cutting                        |
| Corporate Governance Central Controls (Leeds Evidence Framework)       | 20         | Policies and Procedures                | Cross- Cutting                        |
| Financial Procedure Rules Update                                       | 5          | Policies and Procedures                | Central and Corporate Functions       |
| HR Policies and Procedures Central Controls                            | 10         | Policies and Procedures                | Central and Corporate Functions       |
| VFM Policy Update  | 5          | Policies and Procedures                | Central and Corporate Functions       |
| Whistleblowing Policy Update   | 5          | Policies and Procedures                | Cross- Cutting                        |
| Total Policies and Procedures  | 52         |  |                                       |
|  |            |  |                                       |

| Audit   |      | Assurance Block                         | Directorate                     |
|---|------|---|---------------------------------|
| Procurement, Monitoring and Improvement                 |      |   |                                 |
| Assurances on Partnerships                              | 20   | Procurement, Monitoring and Improvement | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Central Monitoring of Key Partnerships                  | 20   | Procurement, Monitoring and Improvement | Central and Corporate Functions |
| Corporate Procurement Unit Central Controls             | 50   | Procurement, Monitoring and Improvement | Central and Corporate Functions |
| Current Contract Audit                                  | 100  | Procurement, Monitoring and Improvement | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Exceptions to Contracts Procedure Rules                 | 70   | Procurement, Monitoring and Improvement | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Performance Management Central Controls                 | 10   | Procurement, Monitoring and Improvement | Central and Corporate Functions |
| Procurement Contract Monitoring                         | 600  | Procurement, Monitoring and Improvement | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Duplicate Payments                                      | 20   | Procurement, Monitoring and Improvement | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Strategic Landlord Strategic Client                     | 25   | Procurement, Monitoring and Improvement | Environment and Neighbourhoods  |
| Total Procurement, Monitoring and Improvement           | 915  |   |                                 |
|   |      |   |                                 |
| Schools   |      |   |                                 |
| Visits to Schools - High (including Sixth Form Funding) | 50   | Schools                                 | Children's Services             |
| Visits to Schools - Primary and Special                 | 90   | Schools                                 | Children's Services             |
| Total Schools   | 140  | R.                                      |                                 |
| Unannounced Visits                                      |      |   |                                 |
| Unannounced Visits (Cash Ups)                           | 100  | Unannounced Visits                      | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Total Unannounced Visits                                | 100  | Onarmounced visits                      | Orosa Gutting                   |
| Total Gildiniodi Violo                                  | 100  |   |                                 |
| Business Analysis and VFM                               |      |   |                                 |
| Business Analysis and VFM                               | 2178 | Business Analysis and VFM               | Cross- Cutting                  |
| Coverage determined on risk, but including;             |      |   |                                 |
| - Children's Services                                   |      |   |                                 |
| - Adult Social Care                                     |      |   |                                 |
| - Changing the Workplace: Customer Access               |      |   |                                 |
| - Electronic Document and Records Management            |      |   |                                 |
| Total Business Analysis and VFM                         | 2178 |   |                                 |
| Total Assurance Block Days                              | 7866 |   |                                 |
| Corporate Working Groups                                | 90   |   |                                 |
| External Contracts                                      | 324  |   |                                 |
|   |      |   |                                 |
| Operational Plan Total Days for 2011/12                 | 8280 |   |                                 |