



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

AUDIT COMMITTEE

25 September 2012

Subject Heading:

Report Author and contact details:

Policy context:

Financial summary:

Outstanding Audit Recommendations

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To advise the Committee on progress to
implement the recommendations raised in
prior years by internal audit.

N/A

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Clean, safe and green borough	X
Excellence in education and learning	X
Opportunities for all through economic, social and cultural activity	X
Value and enhance the life of every individual	X
High customer satisfaction and a stable council tax	X

SUMMARY

Quarterly the Audit Committee receives updates regarding the outstanding audit recommendations. Annually a full review is undertaken and the latest position is presented to inform the Committee of the detail relating to outstanding recommendations.

Due to the changes in the structure of the Internal Audit Team, auditors now are responsible for audit recommendations until they are implemented. The Report detail includes information about this year's process to update the recommendations and Appendix 1 contains the full list of outstanding recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To note the contents of the report.
2. To raise questions for management regarding progress.

REPORT DETAIL

As part of the new team structure implementation new processes have been put in place for a number of activities. Monitoring and update of outstanding audit recommendations is one of the first processes to be updated.

The annual full review of recommendations has taken place; all recommendations have been reviewed and updated. The auditors who raise the recommendations will now be responsible for monitoring and update when the deadline is reached. The Principal Auditor (Systems and Risk Management) is responsible for quality review of this work.

Follow Up Audits are completed for audits where Limited Assurance is given.

Management are asked to provide updates regarding recommendations and a sample is confirmed as complete via audit testing.

Following this year's annual review there are 35 recommendations on the outstanding list.

3 relate to 2008/2009.

4 relate to 2009/2010.

11 relate to 2010/2011.

17 relate to 2011/2012.

The results of this follow up have been reported to Heads of Service and Corporate Management Team.

The recommendations will continue to be followed up on a quarterly basis and summary tables presented to the other quarterly Audit Committee meetings.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

None directly arising from this report, managers have the opportunity of commenting on audit recommendations before they are finalised. In accepting audit recommendations, the managers are obligated to consider financial risks and costs associated with the implications of the recommendations. Resources to follow up audit work are included within the annual audit plan and provided within existing budgets.

Legal implications and risks:

None arising directly from this report

Human Resources implications and risks:

None arising directly from this report

Equalities implications and risks:

None arising directly from this report

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None