

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>External Audit Annual Audit Letter 2011/12</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	Audit Committee on 28 November 2012
<b>WARD</b>	None Specific
<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR</b>	Muir Laurie, Director of Business Assurance & Democratic Services (and Head of Internal Audit)

**OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY**

External Audit provides independent assurance over the way the council uses its resources including the production of its financial statements.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Audit Committee is asked to consider the Audit Commission's 2011/12 Annual Audit Letter (attached).

**SUMMARY OF REPORT**

This letter summarises the Audit Commission's 2011/12 audit of Wokingham Borough Council. It includes the high-level messages highlighted in the Audit Commission's Annual Governance Report which was presented to the Audit Committee on 26 September 2012.

The District Auditor issued an unqualified opinion on the financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2012 and concluded that the council had made proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources. The District Auditor certified completion of the audit.

The Annual Audit Letter confirmed that no action had been taken by External Audit under the Audit Commission Act 1998 in respect of the audit of the 2011/12 financial statements.

**Background**

See above

**Analysis of Issues**

See above

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION**

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Following Financial Year (Year 3)	N/A	N/A	N/A
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<b>Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision</b>
Not applicable.

<b>Cross-Council Implications</b> (how does this decision impact on other Council services and priorities?)
Not applicable.

<b>Reasons for considering the report in Part 2</b>
Not applicable.

<b>List of Background Papers</b>
Audit Commission Annual Governance Report 2011/12 – Presented to Audit Committee on 26 September 2012.

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11 October 2012

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Dear Member

## **Wokingham Borough Council Annual Audit Letter 2011/12**

I am pleased to submit my Annual Audit Letter which summarises my 2011/12 audit of Wokingham Borough Council.

### **Financial statements**

On 26 September 2012 I presented my Annual Governance Report (AGR) to the Audit Committee outlining the findings of my audit of the Authority's 2011/12 financial statements. I will not replicate those findings in this letter.

Following the Audit Committee on 27 September 2012 I:

- issued an unqualified opinion on the Authority's 2011/12 financial statements included in the Authority's Statement of Accounts;
- concluded that you have made proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources;
- certified completion of the audit.

### **Duties under the Audit Commission Act 1998**

I have not taken any action using my powers under the Audit Commission Act 1998 in respect of the audit of your 2011/12 financial statements.

### **Closing remarks**

I have discussed and agreed this letter with the Chief Executive and Strategic Director of Resources. While this has been another challenging year for the Authority I wish to thank the finance staff for their positive and constructive approach they have taken to my audit. I also wish to thank senior management and the Audit Committee for their support and co-operation during the audit.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Taylor  
*District Auditor*

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