

**REPORT TO:** Business Efficiency Board

**DATE:** 10 March 2010

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director – Corporate & Policy

**SUBJECT:** Audit Commission – Audit Opinion Plan 2009/10

**WARD(S):** Borough-wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with details of the work the Council's external auditors propose to carry out in relation to the audit of the Council's financial statements for 2009/10.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Business Efficiency Board is asked to note the Audit Opinion Plan 2009/10.**

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 The Audit Opinion Plan for 2009/10 is attached to this covering report.

## **4.0 POLICY, FINANCIAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The Council's 2009/10 Statement of Accounts is prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP). The SORP sets out the proper accounting practices required for Statement of Accounts, by section 21(2) of the Local Government Act 2003 prepared in accordance with the statutory framework established for England by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003.

## **5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

5.1 There are no direct implications for the Council's priorities.

## **6.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

6.1 The risks that have been considered as part of the opinion planning process are detailed in the attached report.

6.2 The report also highlights specific actions that the Council can take to reduce its audit fees. Failure to take these actions may require additional audit work to be undertaken which would be likely to increase the audit fee.

## **7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

7.1 None identified.

**8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None.