

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Audit Committee
Date:	15 February 2013
Title:	External Audit – Government and Public Sector Assurance Update – December 2012
Reference:	4720
Report From:	Director of Corporate Resources – Corporate Services

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1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to provide the Audit Committee with an update of recent information / developments that may be of interest in the discharge of their governance responsibilities.

2. Contextual information

2.1. On 1 November 2012, and as part of the wider abolition of the Audit Commission, Audit Practice staff transferred to Ernst & Young and now form part of Ernst & Young's national Government and Public Sector (GPS) team.

2.2. The GPS assurance update provides a regular briefing to Audit Committees on issues which may have an impact on them and the wider public sector.

2.3. Appendix 1 provides a copy of the December 2012 edition of the Government and Public Sector Assurance update

3. Recommendation(s)

3.1. To note the December 2012 edition of the Government and Public Sector Assurance update.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	yes/no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes/no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	yes/no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
OR	
This proposal does not link to the Corporate Strategy but, nevertheless, requires a decision because:	
In accordance with the Audit Committee's terms of reference - to receive and consider reports from the external auditor and any national agencies as may report on the County Council's performance, inspection or audit	

NB: If the 'Other significant links' section below is not applicable, please delete it.

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1. Equality objectives are not considered to be adversely affected by the proposals within this report.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. The proposals in this report are not considered to have any direct impact on the prevention of crime, however internal audit work is planned to ensure that controls are in place to minimise the risk of fraud and corruption against the County Council.

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

No specific changes

- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

No specific proposals affecting adaptation to climate change