

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Audit Committee
<b>Date:</b>	15 February 2013
<b>Title:</b>	AUDIT COMMISSION: Certification of Claims and Returns – Annual Report 2011/12
<b>Reference:</b>	4705
<b>Report From:</b>	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 the outcomes of the Audit Commissions Certification of Claims and Returns – Annual Report 2011/12.

### 2. Contextual information

2.1. Local authorities claim large sums of public money in grants and subsidies from central government and other grant-paying bodies and are required to complete returns providing financial information to government departments.

2.2. The 'Certification of claims and returns – annual report' summarises the findings from the Audit Commission's certification of 2011/12 claims. It includes the messages arising from their assessment of the County Council's arrangements for preparing claims and returns and information on claims that were amended or qualified.

2.3. Work was undertaken to check and certify one return during 2011/12, 'Teachers' Pensions'. There were no issues arising from work carried out requiring a qualification report

### 3. Recommendation(s)

3.1. That the Audit Committee notes the Audit Commission's annual report on the Certification of Claims and Returns 2011/12 as attached

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

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	yes/no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes/no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	yes/no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>OR</b>	
<b>This proposal does not link to the Corporate Strategy but, nevertheless, requires a decision because:</b>	
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**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	
Section 28 of the Audit Commission Act 1998		

**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