

Hambleton District Council

External Audit Progress Report

September 2012

Summary of activity

We are pleased to present our progress report to the Audit and Governance Committee. This summarises the activities that we have completed since our report in June 2012.

Summary of activities

Audit completion

Between mid July and mid September our audit team has been on site undertaking our main audit work and review of the 2011/12 Statement of Accounts.

Our detailed report on the 2012 audit is presented at this meeting.

Value for Money (“VFM”)

The majority of this work is complete, the outcome of which is included in our report on the 2012 audit. At the time of writing this report, there was a Strategy Board meeting scheduled for mid September and we will await the outcome of that budget monitoring meeting before finalising our VFM conclusion.

Whole of Government Accounts

For 2011/12, a de minimus has been applied to this work and we are only required to verify the Council's pension liability rather than every entry on the return.

Certification of claims and returns

The National Non-domestic Rates return has been reviewed and will be certified and submitted by 28 September 2012.

The Housing and Council Tax benefit subsidy claim is in the process of being reviewed and a few elements of further testing are required. This claim will be certified and submitted by the deadline of 30 November 2012.

No other claims or returns require certification this year.

Other matters

The Audit Commission issued letters, on 31 July, to all audited bodies confirming auditor appointments for the next 5 years from 2012/13. Consequently our appointment is confirmed for 5 years up to and including 2016/17. Our fee letter for 2012/13 will be issued by 31 October.

Our Annual Audit letter will also be issued by 31 October.

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