Audit Summary Report

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Progress report to the Audit Committee- Jan 2006

Haringey London Borough Council

2004-2005

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As an independent watchdog, we provide important information on the quality of public services. As a driving force for improvement in those services, we provide practical recommendations and spread best practice. As an independent auditor, we monitor spending to ensure public services are good value for money.

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Introduction

- 1 Appendices A and B summarise the progress against our 2004/05 and 2005/06 audit and inspection plans. We have the following issues to bring to your attention:
 - A qualified opinion was issued on the 2004/05 Statement of Accounts on 31st October 2005, in respect of the treatment of the long-term debtor for Alexandra Palace in the 2003/04 comparative balances. We do not expect there to be a qualification on this issue in the 2005/06 financial statements
 - We have on-going correspondence from members of the public in respect of mortuary costs and the Bridge NDC, which we are considering in relation to our powers. As a result, we have not been able to issue a certificate on the 2004/05 audit and the accounts remain open
 - An unqualified report was issued on the 2005/06 BVPP on 21st December 2005
 - Our report on the Technical Refresh report was submitted to the Executive on 18th January and is due on the next Audit Committee agenda.

Appendix 1 – Progress made against 2004/05 audit and inspection plan

| Area in Audit Plan | Key contact | Start date | Target date for issue of draft report | Date of draft report | Date of final report | Comment |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|
| Risk Based Pla | anning | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Audit plan | David Warwick Andrew Travers | February 2004 | March 2004 | | May 2004 | Presented to Audit and Scrutiny Panel July 2004. |
| Audit Letter | Max Caller | Nov 2005 | December 2005 | | | Audit and Inspection Letter deadline 31 January 2006. |
| Opinion | | | | | | |
| Core Process Review | Andrew Travers | March 2005 | July 2005 | July 2005 | | Officer comments received summer 2005. No significant issues arising. |
| Audit of financial statements | Andrew Travers | August 2005 | November 2005 | November 2005 | | Responses received from officers. Key issues included in the 2004/05 Annual Audit and Inspection Letter. |

6 Progress report to the Audit Committee - January 2006 | Appendix 1 – Progress made against 2004/05 audit and inspection plan

| Area in Audit Plan | Key contact | Start date | Target date for issue of draft report | Date of draft report | Date of final report | Comment |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| Opinion | Andrew Travers | August 2005 | October 2005 | 31 October 2005 | 31 October 2005 | Opinion qualified in respect of Alexandra Palace longterm debt. |
| SAS 610 meeting | General Purposes Committee | | | | | Meeting held on 24 October 2005. |
| Financial aspec | cts of corporate gove | rnance | | | | |
| Overall governance arrangements | Andrew Travers | March 2005 | July 2005 | | | Issues reported through 2004/05 Annual Audit and Inspection Letter. |
| Probity in partnerships report | Andrew Travers | Set-up meeting February 2005 | February 2005 | September 2005 | | Work rescheduled for spring 2006. |
| Prudential code of borrowing | Andrew Travers | Ongoing | | | | No issues arising. |
| Social services financial management | Andrew Travers/Ann Bristow | Set-up April 2005 | | | | Work in progress |

| Area in Audit Plan | Key contact | Start date | Target date for issue of draft report | Date of draft report | Date of final report | Comment |
|---|-----------------|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|
| Performance/In | nprovement work | | | | | |
| BVPP | Lesley Courcouf | May 2004 | December 2004 | | | Unqualified opinion issued 14 December 2004. |
| BVPIs | Lesley Courcouf | June 2004 | September 2004 | | | One reserved PI – 192b (Average number of QTS teachers per 10 non-maintained settings). |
| 'Golden Thread' performance management review – phase 3 (support services) | Justin Holliday | Set-up March 2005 | October 2005 | October 2005 | December 2005 | Key issues included in 2004/05 Annual Audit and Inspection Letter. |
| Regeneration inspection | | | | | | Fee used to cover cost of Alexandra Palace objection, and other costs of correspondence, eg the Bridge. |
| Ethical governance | Andrew Travers | Set-up to be held in December 2005 | | | | Work rescheduled to Spring 2006. |

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| Area in Audit Plan | Key contact | Start date | Target date for issue of draft report | Date of draft report | Date of final report | Comment |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| IT strategy (brought forward from 2003/04 | Justin Holliday | October 2004 | February 2005. | | | Final Aug 2005. |



Appendix 2 – Progress against 2005/06 audit and inspection plan

| Area in Audit Plan | Key contact | Start date | Target date for issue of draft report | Date of draft report | Date of final report | Comment |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|
| Risk Based Pla | nning | | | | | |
| Audit plan | David Warwick Andrew Travers Lesley Courcouf | January 2005 | March 2005 | | April 2005 | Presented to May 2005 Audit Committee. |
| Audit Letter | Chief Executive | Ongoing | December 2006 | | | |
| Opinion | | | | | | |
| Interim opinion audit review | Andrew Travers | January 2006 | May 2006 | | | |
| Audit of financial statements | Andrew Travers | July 2006 | November 2006 | | | |

10 Progress report to the Audit Committee - January 2006 | Appendix 2 – Progress against 2005/06 audit and inspection plan

| Area in Audit Plan | Key contact | Start date | Target date for issue of draft report | Date of draft report | Date of final report | Comment |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| Opinion | Andrew Travers | July 2006 | September 2006 | | | |
| SAS 610 meeting | General Purposes Committee | | September 2006 | | | A meeting needs to be included in the scheduling for the GP committee for mid-September 2006. |
| Inspection | | | | | | |
| Streetscene | Anne Fisher | ТВА | ТВА | | | To be discussed with the Council. |
| Indicative ALMO | Stephen Clarke | Jan 06 | March 06 | | | |
| Direction of Travel statement | Max Caller | | December 2005 | November 2005 | December 2005 | Included in the 2004/05 Annual Audit and Inspection Letter and on the Audit Commission website. |
| Use of resource | es | | | | | |
| BVPP opinion and PI audit memorandum | Eve Pelekanos | June 2005 | December 2005 | | | None of the 12 "high-risk" indicators selected by the Audit Commission for audit were subject to reservation. |
| Children's Act | Sharon Shoosmith/ Andrew | Set-up on 4 July | End October/early November | November 2006 | | Responses received from officers and report being finalised. Key issues arising |

| Area in Audit Plan | Key contact | Start date | Target date for issue of draft report | Date of draft report | Date of final report | Comment |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|
| | Travers | 2005 | 2005 | | | included in 2004/05 Annual Audit and Inspection Letter. |
| Use of Resources opinion | Chief Executive | Ongoing | September 2006 | | | |
| Use of resources score | Andrew Travers | July 2005 | November 2005 | November 2005 | November 2005 | Key issues included in 2004/05 Annual Audit and Inspection Letter. |
| Review of Project Management - Technical Refresh | Max Caller | October 2005 | December 2005 | December 2005 | January 2006 | This work has been undertaken under our Code of Audit Practice responsibilities. It is additional work to our planned audit fee. The report has been submitted to the 18th January 2006 Executive and is scheduled to come to the next Audit Committee. Key issues have been included in the 2004/05 Annual Audit and Inspection Letter. |