

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY

AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT JANUARY 2013

Work	Progress
Audit Planning – 2012/13	As reported at the last Corporate Committee, we are working closely with the Council to prepare for the audit of the 2012/13 accounts. We will be carrying out our planning visit in the last week of January and our findings will be presented in our Accounts Approach Memorandum. We are working with CIPFA Financial Advisory Network (FAN) to provide workshops to support the closure of the 2012/13 accounts. Details of these workshops have been provided to the Council.
Publications	Towards a Tipping Point?
	We published our second financial health review of English local authorities in December 2012. With financial austerity due to continue until at least 2017, our financial health review considers key indicators of financial performance, financial governance, strategic financial planning and financial controls, to provide a summary update on how the sector is coping, drawing comparisons with last year's findings. Hard copies of the review has been provided to the Council, it can be accessed electronically via the following link: http://www.grant-thornton.co.uk/en/Publications/2012/Towards-a-tipping-
	point
	Grant Thornton's annual review of governance
	We will shortly be publishing our second annual review of governance arrangements in Local Government. Key issues drawn out of our review include:
	- Councils are still opting not to produce annual reports, although it is recognised that they are a good idea and a good way to communicate to the public. There remains a transparency and accountability gap that could be bridged by annual reports.
	- Respondents to our survey remain very positive about underlying governance arrangements. However, our review highlights that there are potential assurance and efficiency gains to be made from proper assurance planning, starting with what will go in to Annual

Governance Statements.

The underlying theme of our review highlights the need to have a culture that supports proper assurance and governance arrangements and that officers and members behave in the right ways to support this.

We will provide the Council with copies of the review on publication.

Grant Thornton UK LLP

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