

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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| COMMITTEE | Council |
| DATE | 8 th October 2015 |
| LEAD OFFICER | Chief Executive |
| TITLE OF REPORT | Accounts Commission Statutory Report |
| REPORT NUMBER | OCE/15/038 |
| CHECKLIST COMPLETED | Yes |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report provides an update to the Council on the Accounts Commission Statutory Report following the meeting between the Group Leaders and representatives of the Accounts Commission on 28th August 2015.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Council notes the arrangements being put in place to ensure that the Controller of Audit receives updates on the Council's progress in addressing the Commission's findings.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The report has no financial implications.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The report has no other specific implications.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

At its meeting on 19th August 2015 the Council considered a report by the Chief Executive (OCE/15/028) on the Accounts Commission's report of July 2015 following the Best Value audit undertaken by Audit Scotland on the Council during the first half of 2015.

The Council considered the Commission's findings and agreed to receive update reports from the Chief Executive at future meetings of the Council as appropriate.

The Chief Executive's report informed the Council that it is the intention to ensure that the findings and the related areas for improvement noted in the Controller of Audit's report inform the work underway within the Council to refresh and improve service planning, performance management and reporting and employee engagement. All these strands of work will be reported as required at the appropriate time to elected members.

The Council was also informed at its meeting on 19th August 2015 that the Chair of the Accounts Commission was meeting the Group Leaders at the end of August and that it was hoped that the discussion then would establish the most appropriate way in which the Council can ensure that the Controller of Audit receives timely and regular updates to reassure him of the progress being made in addressing the findings.

It has been agreed that the Chief Executive will meet with the Council's external auditor on a quarterly basis to discuss progress on the findings. In addition an annual update report will be taken to the Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee.

6. IMPACT

**Improving Customer Experience –
Improving Staff Experience –
Improving our use of Resources –
Corporate -
Public –**

The subject matter of the report relates to all aspects of the Council's delivery of its policies, strategies and plans. The report is likely to be of interest to the public.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Any risks that emerge through addressing the Accounts Commission's findings will be addressed through mitigation activity and will be reported as appropriate to future meetings of the Council.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Aberdeen City Council Audit of Best Value and Community Planning, July 2015.

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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