

**Fuel Management****Report by John Blair, Director, Corporate Resources****1. Introduction**

This report presents progress with the fuel management improvement plan which has been discussed at previous Audit Committee meetings.

**2. Background**

An Internal Audit carried out in late 2012 made recommendations for improvement that management accepted. These were then entered into the covalent performance management system and a monthly review carried out by the Council's Business Services section and frontline service managers.

The Audit Committee of December discussed the progress and asked for updates until a high level of assurance over fuel management could be achieved.

An update progress report is attached. Most of the recommendations are being led by the Senior Finance and Business Systems Officer and he will be attending today's meeting to answer any questions members may have.

My own view is that sufficient progress has been made which has led to further assurance that internal control is robust. However, the Internal Audit team will keep monitoring and testing the progress.

**3. Report Implications****3.1 Resource**

There are no direct resource implications arising from this report.

**3.2 Risk**

Clearly, the original audit assignment identified that the Council was carrying some risk in relation to fuel but the recommendations, and their implementation, have closed the gap.

**3.3 Policy**

**Strategy** – this report addresses directly the council's policy to have a robust internal control environment, management of risk and effective governance.

**Consultation** – During the Q3 12/13 performance reporting process, the recommendations were discussed between the Business Services and Internal Audit sections.

**Equalities** – There are no equalities issues arising from this report.

**Sustainability** – Having a robust risk management system assists the Council in sustaining its services.

#### **4. Recommendations**

The Audit Committee is invited to:-

- (1) Scrutinise the progress made with the fuel management recommendations..

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