

Executive

Annual Audit and Inspection Letter, 31 March 2009

6 April 2009

Report of Chief Executive

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Mr Robert Hathaway, the Comprehensive Area Assessment Lead (CAAL) for Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes will be presenting the Council's Annual Audit and Inspection Letter (AAIL) to Executive members on 6 April 2009. The AAIL will be published on 31st March and is attached.

This report is public

Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to:

- (1) Note the contents of the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter and question the Comprehensive Area Assessment Lead directly after his presentation.
- (2) Thank the Audit Commission team for their support this year.
- (3) Ask the Chief Executive and Head of Improvement to ensure that the areas of improvement highlighted are appropriately reflected in the Improvement Plan 2009/10 which will be considered by the Executive on 27th April 2009.

Executive Summary

Introduction

- 1.1 Mr Robert Hathaway, the Comprehensive Area Assessment Lead (CAAL) for Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes will be presenting the Council's Annual Audit and Inspection Letter (AAIL) to Executive members on 6 April 2009. The AAIL will be published on 31st March and is attached.

Proposals

- 1.2 The Audit Commission believes that this Council is performing well against its priorities, demonstrating strong community leadership, improving customer satisfaction and delivering better value for money. The report recognises that

all these improvements have contributed to the Council being re-categorised as 'Excellent' following its Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) in November 2008.

- 1.3 There are of course areas which the Audit Commission points to which need improving. These include reducing residents' fear of crime, developing a more strategic approach to procurement and developing better embedded arrangements to ensure data quality. We also need to review the training opportunities we offer to Councillors to ensure greater take-up of these.

Key Issues for Consideration/Reasons for Decision and Options

The Executive can question the Comprehensive Area Assessment Lead directly at the meeting.

Wards Affected

All

Corporate Plan Themes

All

Executive Portfolio

Councillor Barry Wood
Portfolio Holder for Policy and Community Planning

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
Appendix 1	Annual Audit and Inspection Letter
Background Papers	
None	
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