Chairs Report – Audit Committee

Purpose
To inform the Board of the outcomes of the Audit Committee that met on the 17 April 2013.

Summary

a. Internal Audit – Annual Report 2012/13

This included Budgetary Control 2012/13, Lambeth Partnering Contracts 2012 and Health and Safety 2012/13.

The following points were highlighted from the latter item:

- Cover is being provided for the Head of Health and Safety and this will be subject to a review. The management actions are being progressed.
- Balfour Beatty are now carrying out the fire alarm tests at area offices to avoid any confusion over roles of the differing agencies.
- Loneworker training is now given as part of the induction process to new staff and managers will be programming in the training for existing staff over the coming months.

b. Internal Audit Report for Programme for Lambeth Living 2013/14

The draft programme of audits for the new financial year was discussed and agreed. It was agreed that the scope of the proposed audit of Customer Services will be considered further at the July 2013 Committee.


It was noted that the Council's auditors would be covering Welfare reform, temporary accommodation and Section 20 consultation with tenants amongst other issues.
d. Letter from Parnell Kerr & Foster, regarding the Merger with BDO.

It was noted that PKF had merged with BDO and now operated under the BDO brand name.

e. External Audit Approach and Scope for 2012/13 external audit.

BDO outlined the scope of their work for the annual audit. They noted that they could rely upon the internal audits carried out by PWC and this would reduce the amount of work BDO would undertake.

f. Other issues.

The review of Lambeth Living Standing Orders discussed at the Committee’s last meeting in February, remains open pending benchmarking information from PWC to compare with the existing delegations within Lambeth Living.

We will be reporting to the Council’s Corporate Committee which occurs ahead of the next Audit Committee. The Chair and appropriate officers will attend the Corporate Committee meeting.

| Key risks | None |
| Financial implications | None |
| Recommendation | The Board to note the Chair’s report. |