

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	15 May 2008
Subject:	Annual Audit and Inspection Plan 2008-09
Responsible Officer:	Myfanwy Barrett Corporate Director of Finance
Portfolio Holder:	Strategy, Partnership and Finance (to be confirmed at Annual Council on 8 May 2008)
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Appendix 1 – Annual Audit and Inspection Plan 2008-09

## Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report provides Cabinet with an opportunity to comment on the Annual Audit and Inspection Plan.

### **Recommendations:**

Cabinet is asked to comment on the Annual Audit and Inspection Plan.

### **Reason:**

To ensure that Cabinet is aware of the planned audit and inspection activity for 2008-09.

## **Section 2 – Report**

1. The Audit Commission Relationship Manager, together with the External Auditor, has produced the attached Annual Audit and Inspection Plan (AAIP) 2008-09 for Harrow.
2. The planned work includes the audit of the financial statements for 2008-09 for the Council and the Pension Fund, the Use of Resources Assessment for 2008, the Direction of Travel Statement and an inspection of the Council's approach to regeneration.
3. The work in 2008-09 will also include an assessment of the Council's readiness for the new Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) regime and new Use of Resources Framework which will come into effect in 2009-10.
4. The outputs from the work will be summarised in the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter.
5. The role of Audit Commission relationship manager is being replaced by a new role entitled CAA Lead. Appointments are being made to these new roles and the Council expects to hear the outcome in a few weeks time.

### **Financial Implications**

6. The total planned fee for 2008-09 for audit and inspection work, including grant claims, is £607k. This is an increase of 7% compared with 2007-08. Harrow's fee is 8% above the scale fee set by the Audit Commission but well within the acceptable level of variation specified by the commission, which is 30%.
7. There will be a separate fee for the Pension Fund Accounts of £42k.
8. The planned fee is within budget.

### **Performance Issues**

9. The plan includes work on data quality and performance indicators.

### Section 3: Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Myfanwy Barrett

Chief Finance Officer

Date: 15 April 2008

Name: Hugh Peart

Monitoring Officer

Date: 15 April 2008

### Section 4: Performance Officer Clearance

Name: Tom Whiting

Divisional Director (Strategy & Improvement)

Date: 15 April 2008

### Section 5: Contact details and background papers

**Contact:** Myfanwy Barrett, Corporate Director of Finance  
020-8424-9269

**Background Papers:**

None