

**REPORT FOR: Governance, Audit and  
Risk Management  
Committee**

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**Date of Meeting:** 1 December 2011

**Subject:** **INFORMATION REPORT –  
Risk, Audit and Fraud  
Commissioning Panel Options**

**Responsible Officer:** Tom Whiting, Assistant Chief Executive

**Exempt:** No

**Enclosures:** Appendix – Detailed proposals

**Section 1 – Summary**

This report sets out the options for meeting the budget challenges facing the council over the next three years in relation to the Risk, Audit and Fraud Division within the Chief Executive's department.

**FOR INFORMATION**

## **Section 2 – Report**

- 2.1 The Council continues to face significant budget challenges over the coming years and work has been taking place during late summer / early autumn in all directorates, to identify options for meeting those challenges over the next three years.
- 2.2 A series of “Commissioning Panels” were convened during October to receive presentations on the options identified across all directorates. The Corporate Services commissioning panel, which included the Chief Executive’s, Finance and Legal & Governance options took place on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2011.
- 2.3 In advance of this, at its meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2011, officers explained to the Committee that this process was underway and gave an assurance that the commissioning options for the Risk, Audit and Fraud division, for which the Committee has a specific monitoring role, would be reported in full for consideration and comments.
- 2.4 The agreed proposals from all directorates will become part of the draft budget, which will be agreed at Cabinet in December. The final budget will be set by full Council in February 2012.

## **Section 3 – Further Information**

- 3.1 None

## **Section 4 – Financial Implications**

- 4.1 Financial implications are the core subject of this report and the options, together with service implications and risks, are set out in full in the appendix.
- 4.2 The target set across the council for budget reductions through the commissioning panels, was approximately 30%

## **Section 5 - Equalities implications**

- 5.1 An equalities screening exercise has been carried out for all the options and this has not identified any potentially adverse equality impacts.

## **Section 6 – Corporate Priorities**

- 6.1 The work of the Risk, Audit and Fraud division supports all council directorates to identify and manage risks in order to facilitate the achievement of service objectives and corporate priorities.

Name: Steve Tingle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 15 November 2011		

## **Section 7 - Contact Details and Background Papers**

**Contact:** David Ward, Divisional Director – Risk, Audit & Fraud  
0208 424 1781

**Background Papers:** None