

**Essex Countywide Traveller Unit Joint Committee**

**Annual Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013**

**Explanatory Note for Section 4 – Annual Internal Audit Report 2012/13**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Where the Joint Committee's internal audit report has given a 'Not covered' response on the Annual Return it is required to give explanatory notes on why this is. This document provides these notes.
- 1.2 All Internal audit reviews of the Joint Committee will be completed by Essex County Council's internal audit team.

**2. Explanatory Notes**

- 2.1 The return associated to the internal audit report has provided a 'Not covered' response for all ten internal control objectives. This is due to the fact that the 2012/13 internal audit was not requested. The first internal audit review specific to the Essex Countywide Traveller Unit Joint Committee will cover the 2013/14 annual accounts and will be undertaken within the required timescale to ensure timely submission of the annual return.
- 2.2 The Joint Committee uses Essex County Council systems which are subject to annual review by Essex County Council's Internal Auditors and the Council's External Auditors. For each of the key fundamental systems to which the Joint Committee accounts are exposed a substantial or full assurance overall opinion was given by Internal Audit for the financial year 2012/13.