

		AGENDA ITEM 4
		AC/001/11
Committee:	Audit Committee	
Date:	17 January 2011	
<u>FORWARD LOOK</u>		
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Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to set out the Committee's latest work programme for its consideration.

The Committee are invited to consider the following topics with a view to agreeing the method to for progressing them forward in the next 12 months:

Topic	Suggested Areas for Discussion
Developing Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aims and outcomes of good governance • Other Audit Committees (public sector, FTSE 100) and their terms of reference, membership and agenda structure • External Inspection Reports • Commissioning of work by Internal and External Audit • Relationship with scrutiny • Developing Member involvement • The changing landscape- companies, Councils, joint ventures, partnerships, Audit Commission, special purchase vehicles

Decision making process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What constitutes a decision • Good practice
Review of partnerships	
IFRS and Fixed Assets	
External School Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified finance staff in schools • Resilience • Risks and solutions

**Audit Committee:
Review Schedule 2009/2010 (provisional)**

Meeting	Topic	Author	Action required
14 March 2011			
	2009/10 Grants Report	External Auditors	Report to be considered at the March meeting.
	2010/11 Opinion Plan	External Auditors	Report to be considered at the March meeting.
	Draft 2011/12 Internal Audit Plan	Assistant Director of Internal Audit and Risk Management Consultancy Services	Report to be considered at the March meeting.
16 May 2011			
	Final Internal Audit Plan 2011/12	Assistant Director of Internal Audit and Risk Management Consultancy Services	Report to be considered at the May meeting.
27 June 2011			
	Statement of Accounts 2010/11	Director for Finance	Report to be approved at the June meeting.
	Annual Governance Statement	Director for Finance	Report to be approved at the June meeting.
	Internal Audit Annual Report	Assistant Director of Internal Audit and Risk Management	Report to be considered at the June meeting.

		Consultancy Services	
26 September 2011	Annual Governance Report (Annual Audit Opinion) 2010/11	External Auditors	Report to be approved at the September meeting.
	Annual Governance Report Essex Pension Fund 2010/11	External Auditors	Report to be approved at the September meeting.
	2010/11 Pension Fund Fee Letter	External Auditors	Report to be considered at the September meeting.
	Internal Audit Progress Report 2011/12	Assistant Director of Internal Audit and Risk Management Consultancy Services	Report to be considered at the September meeting.
	Review and Self-Evaluation of the Committees effectiveness (including value added to the work of the Council and identification of development needs)	TBA	Report to be considered at the September meeting.
2011/12			
	Developing Governance	TBA	TBA
	Decision Making Process	TBA	TBA
	Review of Partnerships	External Auditors	TBA
	Audit Commission Update	External Auditors	Ongoing

	Appointment Process for Chief and Deputy Officers	TBA	TBA
	Corporate Governance Review Implementation Plan	TBA	TBA
	Monitoring of External Inspection Reports	TBA	TBA