

DECISION-MAKER:	AUDIT COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:	HIGHWAYS SERVICE PARTNERSHIP PROCUREMENT		
DATE OF DECISION:	25 th JANUARY 2010		
REPORT OF:	CHIEF INTERNAL AUDITOR (Acting)		
AUTHOR:	Name:	NICK JOHNSON	Tel: 023 80 832613
	E-mail:	Nick.johnson@southampton.gov.uk	

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

None

SUMMARY

- a) The Council is in the process of procuring a Highways Service Provider to deliver its highways services. The Audit Commission has been appointed to advise on risks associated with the Project. In this context the Audit Commission provided a Progress Report (Appendix 1) to the Council highlighting key risks and issues. The Council, through the Project Governance Framework, considered the issues raised within the report thoroughly and provided a response (Appendix 2).
- b) A report is due at Cabinet in February which will also fully address the issues raised in the Audit Commission's report

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) To note the issues raised by the Audit Commission in Appendix 1 and the Council's response to these issues in Appendix 2

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. In accordance with proper internal audit practices and the Internal Audit Strategy and demonstrating robust project assurance.

CONSULTATION

2. COMT and Project Board have been appraised on the key project issues which are also included within the Audit Commission Report. Project Board have approved the response detailed in Appendix 2.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

3. None

DETAIL

4. The details are included in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital

5. None

Revenue

6. None

Property

7. None

Other

8. None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

9. The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006 require the Council to 'maintain an adequate and effective system of internal audit of its accounting records and of its system of internal control in accordance with the proper practices in relation to internal control'.

Other Legal Implications:

10. None.

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

11. None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1.	Audit Commission Progress Report. Highways Partnership Project
2.	Highways Partnership Project Council Response

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	
----	--

Background Documents

Title of Background Paper(s)

Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1.		
----	--	--

Background documents available for inspection at Internal Audit, Risk and Assurance Office, North Block Basement, Civic Centre

E-mail:

FORWARD PLAN No: N/A

KEY DECISION? N/A