

REPORT TO	DATE OF MEETING
Shared Services Joint Committee	20/06/10

Report template revised June 2008



SUBJECT	PORTFOLIO	AUTHOR	ITEM
Appointment of External Auditor	N/A	G Barclay	7(a)

SUMMARY AND LINK TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES

This report informs members of the appointment of BDO LLP as external auditor to the Chorley & South Ribble Shared Services Joint Committee.

The Shared Services Partnership is seen as a key project by both Chorley and South Ribble Councils and makes a direct and extensive contribution to the following strategic objectives:

“Ensuring that **Chorley** Council is a consistently top performing organisation.”

“**South Ribble** is an efficient, effective and exceptional council.”

RECOMMENDATION

That the Joint Committee notes the report

DETAILS AND REASONING

Members will be aware of previous deliberations with the Audit Commission over the need for a full external audit of the Joint Committee’s annual financial statements. Under the previous Accounts & Audit Regulations this was a requirement for all bodies with a turnover in excess of £1million.

Revised Accounts & Audit Regulations have now taken affect from 31/3/2011 under which the threshold for smaller relevant bodies has increased from £1million to £6.5million. The Joint Committee is therefore now classified as a smaller relevant body and is subject to the limited assurance audit regime for 2010/11 and future years.

Under the limited assurance audit regime the Joint Committee is able to produce simplified accounts in the form of an annual return. Details of this are explained in more detail under Item 7(b) on this agenda.

As the attached letter confirms, the Audit Commission have appointed BDO LLP as the Joint Committee’s external auditor under the limited assurance audit regime for a 2 year period commencing with the audit of the 2010/11 financial statements.

The Audit Commission wrote to all affected bodies in April 2011 to consult about the implications for their fees and members will receive a verbal update of the latest position at this meeting

WIDER IMPLICATIONS

FINANCIAL	The impact of the limited assurance audit regime on the Joint Committee's audit fees is still under consideration and Members will receive a verbal update of the latest position at this meeting.
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LEGAL	This report demonstrates the Joint Committee's compliance with the revised Accounts & Audit Regulations in respect of the external auditor appointment.
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RISK	There are no specific risk issues associated with this report.
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OTHER (see below)	
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<i>Asset Management</i>	<i>Corporate Plans and Policies</i>	<i>Crime and Disorder</i>	<i>Efficiency Savings/Value for Money</i>
<i>Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion</i>	<i>Freedom of Information/ Data Protection</i>	<i>Health and Safety</i>	<i>Health Inequalities</i>
<i>Human Rights Act 1998</i>	<i>Implementing Electronic Government</i>	<i>Staffing, Training and Development</i>	<i>Sustainability</i>

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

1. Accounts & Audit Regulations 2011