

# Progress report

January 2011

Norwich City Council

Audit 2010/11

**The Audit Commission is an independent watchdog, driving economy, efficiency and effectiveness in local public services to deliver better outcomes for everyone.**

**Our work across local government, health, housing, community safety and fire and rescue services means that we have a unique perspective. We promote value for money for taxpayers, auditing the £200 billion spent by 11,000 local public bodies.**

**As a force for improvement, we work in partnership to assess local public services and make practical recommendations for promoting a better quality of life for local people.**

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# Introduction

**1** The purpose of this report is to update the Audit Committee on work completed to date and the work to be completed during the rest of the year for Norwich City Council.

**2** This report includes a summary of progress in delivering the main elements of the 2010/11 audit plan at Appendix 1. Appendix 1 also comments on residual activities in respect of the 2009/10 plan. This report does not cover any inspection activities.

## Finalised reports

**3** The following report has been finalised since the November 2010 update report:

- Whole of Government Accounts Assurance Report.

# Appendix 1 Audit Plan delivery

## Progress in delivering the 2009/10 and 2010/11 Audit Plans

Table 1: **Audit progress**

Work area	Status	Comments
<b>Audit Plan 2009/10 - residual deliverables (progress since November 2010 Audit Committee meeting)</b>		
Final accounts memorandum (to the Head of Finance)	Expected date of completion - by end January 2011.	
Whole of Government Accounts (WGA) return	Completed.	Assurance report completed 21 December. 'Except for' opinion provided on the WGA pack.
Annual Audit Letter	Completed.	The Council issued the Annual Audit Letter to Council members on 30 November.
<b>Additional to the main 2009/10 Audit Plan</b>		
2009/10 grant claims and returns certification work	In progress - expected dates of completion - from September 2010 to January 2011	Claims not yet certified are: Housing benefits – due by 30 November. Work remains in progress. New Deal for Communities – due by 31 December. Work remains in progress.
Certification of claims and returns - annual report	Expected date of completion - by end February 2011	

Work area	Status	Comments
<b>Audit Plan 2010/11</b>		
Planning	Completed	Initial planning activities have been completed and the 2010/11 Annual Audit Fee Letter was considered at the 8 June 2010 Audit Committee meeting. Planning for 2010/11 will continue to be updated throughout the course of 2011, including updating our approach to the value for money conclusion. Any resulting changes to the planned work and fee will be discussed and agreed with officers and reported to the Audit Committee.
Opinion Audit Plan	Expected date of completion - by April 2011	
Annual Governance Report	Expected date of completion - by end of September 2011	
Auditor's report giving the opinion on the financial statements	Expected date of completion - by end of September 2011	
Final accounts memorandum (to the Head of Finance)	Expected date of completion - by end October 2011	
Whole of Government Accounts return	Expected date of completion - by end of September 2011	
<b>Value for money</b>		
Auditor's report giving the value for money opinion	Expected date of completion - by end of September 2011	
<b>Overarching</b>		
Annual Audit Letter	Expected date of completion - by end November 2011	

Work area	Status	Comments
<b>Additional to the main 2010/11 Audit Plan</b>		
2010/11 certification work	Expected dates of completion - from September to December 2011	
Certification of claims and returns - annual report	Expected date of completion - by end January 2012	