

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Understanding how the Audit Committee gains assurance from Management	
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	Officer Management Team- Prepared by	Director of Resources - Head of Finance

## 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to present to the Audit Committee a draft response to the External Auditor Letter requesting information on how the Audit Committee gains assurance from Management.

## 2. Links to Council Policies & Plans

- 2.1. This report relates to maintaining effective governance arrangements.

## 3. Report

- 3.1. Auditing standards require our external auditors (Ernst & Young) to formally update their understanding of South Bucks' management processes at least annually.
- 3.2. As part of this they formally request that both the section 151 officer (the Director of Resources), and the chair of the Audit Committee provide written responses to various questions about the Council's management processes.
- 3.3. The formal request to the chair of the Audit Committee is included as Appendix 1 and the proposed response is included as Appendix 2.
- 3.4. The Audit Committee is requested to review the letter and proposed response, and suggest any changes.
- 3.5. The Chair of the Audit Committee will then be requested to sign the formal response.

## 4. Recommendation

- 4.1. That the Audit Committee agrees the proposed response to the External Auditor letter, requesting information on how the Audit Committee gains assurance from Management.

<b>Officer Contact:</b>	Rodney Fincham- Ext 7268 Jim Burness - Ext 7217	email: <a href="mailto:rodney.fincham@southbucks.gov.uk">rodney.fincham@southbucks.gov.uk</a> email: <a href="mailto:Jim.burness@southbucks.gov.uk">Jim.burness@southbucks.gov.uk</a>
<b>Background Papers:</b>	None	