

USE OF RESOURCES REPORT 2008/09

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1. Purpose

To receive the Audit Commission's 2008/09 report on Milton Keynes Council's Use of Resources 2008/09.

2. Recommendations

That the Committee receive and comment upon the Use of Resources Report and Action Plan 2008/09.

3. Issues and Choices

The use of resources assessment considers how well the Council is managing and using its resources to deliver value for money and better and sustainable outcomes for local people. The assessment comprises three themes. These focus on the importance of sound and strategic financial management, strategic commissioning and good governance, and the effective management of natural resources, assets and people.

The use of resources assessment uses the Audit Commission's current four-point scale from 1 to 4, with 4 being the highest. The Council, for 2008/09, achieved an overall score of 2 which means that the Council performed adequately.

This score contributes to the Council's score for the new Corporate Area Assessment (CAA).

The Audit Commission's Use of Resources Report (Annex A) was issued on 14 January 2010. The report contains an action plan that records the Commission's 10 recommendations plus a response from the Council to each of these.

The key points are:

- a. The report found a number of significant weaknesses;
- b. The Commission reported that the Council had acted quickly to put improvement measures and actions in place;
- c. Managing Finances received a score of 1 out of 4;

- d. Governing the Business received a score of 2 out of 4;
- e. Managing resources received a score of 2 out of 4.

A summary of the reports findings is available on page 3 of the report attached at Annex A.

Background Papers:

Audit Commission Report: Use of Resources; Milton Keynes Council; Audit 2008/09