ITEM 14



AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE 28 SEPTEMBER 2006

Report of the Assistant Director of Highways and Transport

Audit Report – Home to School Transport

RECOMMENDATION

1.1 To note the report from independent transport consultants that sets out proposed actions in relation to audit regulations.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 At its meeting on 6 April 2006, the Committee requested that it wished to have the opportunity to receive an update on progress from the Transport Procurement and Operations Group, TPOG, on responding to recommendations in Home to School Transport audit report.
- 2.2 Due to the resource issues that were highlighted at the last meeting, independent transport consultants were appointed on 27 July 2006. Their brief was to review the audit report and provide a series of proposals to address the recommendations set out in the audit report.
- 2.3 A copy of the draft report from the consultants is attached in Appendix 2.
- 2.4 In principle, officers feel that this report does provide robust responses to the audit recommendations. However, there will be implications on staff resources and there may be some areas where it will be difficult for us to take on board all of the proposals at this time. Many of the issues require further progress to be made on the development of TPOG and the further integration of the procurement of transport services across the Council.
- 2.5 Members should also note that the consultants have also been retained to progress the development of the more integrated approach to transport procurement, which was recommended following the Best Value Review in 2003. This work will also take into account the recommendations from the audit report.

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| Background papers: List of appendices: | None Appendix 1 Implications Appendix 2 Draft Report from Consultants |

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None directly arising.

Legal

2. None directly arising.

Personnel

3. None directly arising.

Equalities impact

4. None directly arising.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

5. None directly arising.