

**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
AUDIT COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 8 JUNE 2004 AT 10:00 A.M.**

Agenda Item No:

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INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2003/04

Report of the Chief Internal Auditor

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1. Purpose of Report

To present a summary of the key themes and recommendations that emerged through Internal Audit's work in 2003/04, and of management's responses to these, to enable the Committee to comment on these and related matters.

2. Background

The attached Annual Report aims to bring together, service by service, the main issues raised by Internal Audit in the course of their 2003/04 work. Where possible it also outlines management's responses and actions taken to address the recommendations in the many individual audit reports.

The introductory section sets out the key messages to emerge from the report, including an overall assurance on the Council's system of internal financial control. It also provides a glossary of the more frequently used audit terms and abbreviations.