

REPORT TO	DATE OF MEETING
Shared Services Joint Committee	23/01/12

Report template revised June 2008



SUBJECT	PORTFOLIO	AUTHOR	ITEM
External Auditor's certificate and opinion – year ended 31 March 2011	N/A	S Guinness	6

SUMMARY AND LINK TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES

This report updates Joint Committee members with regard to the audit of the 2011/12 Joint Committee Annual Return.

The Partnership is seen as a key function by both Chorley and South Ribble Councils and continues to make a direct and extensive contribution to the following strategic objectives:

“Ensuring that **Chorley** Council is a consistently top performing organisation”.

“**South Ribble** is an efficient, effective and exceptional council”

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Joint Committee approves the Annual Return and notes the issues raised in the audit report.

DETAILS AND REASONING

A copy of the External auditor's certificate and opinion are attached for Members' information (Appendix 1). The report states that the return does not balance in the sum of £275.00. This will be corrected and will not occur next year in the Annual Return. Due to the nature of the issue an action plan is not considered to be necessary.

A copy of the Annual Return amended since the Joint Committee held in June is also attached (Appendix 2).

After the Annual Return has been approved the Annual Return and notice of conclusion of audit should be then displayed in a conspicuous place(s) for 14 days.

The standard fee for the audit is £3,500.00 plus VAT. Provision for this charge is contained in the existing Joint Committee budget 2011/12.

WIDER IMPLICATIONS

In the preparation of this report, consideration has been given to the impact of the following:

FINANCIAL	The standard fee for the audit is £3,500.00 plus VAT. Provision for this charge is contained in the Joint Committee budget 2011/12.		
LEGAL	The production, approval and audit of the Joint Committee's Annual Return is a legal requirement for Small relevant bodies in England with an annual turnover of £1 million or less.		
RISK	None specific to this report.		
OTHER (see below)			
<i>Asset Management</i>	<i>Corporate Plans and Policies</i>	<i>Crime and Disorder</i>	<i>Efficiency Savings/Value for Money</i>
<i>Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion</i>	<i>Freedom of Information/ Data Protection</i>	<i>Health and Safety</i>	<i>Health Inequalities</i>
<i>Human Rights Act 1998</i>	<i>Implementing Electronic Government</i>	<i>Staffing, Training and Development</i>	<i>Sustainability</i>