

## **XENTRALL AUDIT PLAN 2009/10 – PROGRESS REPORT FROM STOCKTON BOROUGH COUNCIL’S INTERNAL AUDIT SECTION**

### **Purpose of Report**

1. To provide Darlington Borough Council’s Audit Committee with a progress report against the 2009/2010 Xentrall Audit Plan as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009.

### **Information and Analysis**

2. Stockton Borough Council’s Annual Audit Plan for 2009/10 is risk based and was approved by SBC’s Audit Committee in May 2009. The relevant Xentrall element of the Plan was reported to DBC’s Audit Committee in March 2009.
3. The range of audit work to be carried out on the partnership was developed following consultation with the Xentrall Management Board, Audit Services at Darlington Borough Council and the External Auditors of both councils. The detailed scope of each audit assignment is agreed by Stockton Borough Council Internal Audit and Xentrall management prior to the commencement of audit work.
4. Appendix A identifies the completed audits so far this financial year and one currently classed as on-going. New system implementation of PSE is given full assurance and Income is given substantial assurance.
5. It is also pleasing to report that SBC’s Internal Audit Service was considered satisfactory following two reviews at the end of the last financial year. One review was conducted by SBC’s external auditors and the other by a peer group of senior officers. Both reviews made the recommendation that the Service’s strategy document needed updating and the external auditors made a further recommendation on the need to follow up on the implementation of audit recommendations. These recommendations have been implemented.

**Ian Jones  
Chief Internal Auditor  
Stockton Borough Council**

Ian Jones (01642) 526362

**APPENDIX A**

2009/10 Audits previously reported

None.

Audits Presented

Department	Audit Assignment	Assurance Opinion	Where Assurance Opinion Less Than Substantial	
			Audit Comment	Management Response
<b>Xentrall</b>	New systems implementation – PSE migration	Full		
	Income	Substantial		

On-going

Department	Audit Assignment	Status	Where Assurance Opinion Less Than Substantial	
			Audit Comment	Management Response
<b>Xentrall</b>	Creditors	On-going		

**Opinion Scoring Methodology**

<b>Assurance</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>FULL ASSURANCE</b>	A sound system of controls is being applied consistently 91 -100% assurance on testing results
<b>SUBSTANTIAL ASSURANCE</b>	Overall, there is a sound system of internal controls, however, the implementation of the agreed recommendations would further strengthen these controls 71 – 90% assurance on testing results
<b>LIMITED ASSURANCE</b>	The system of controls is weak and (either) is not being complied with in some significant areas, or does not cover all areas. 41 – 70% assurance on testing results
<b>NO ASSURANCE</b>	The system of controls is failing and in need of urgent management attention. 0 – 40% assurance on testing results