

**WILTSHIRE COUNCIL**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**19<sup>th</sup> September 2012**

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**EXTERNAL AUDIT (KPMG) & SWAP AUDIT PROTOCOL**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. This report informs the Committee of the protocol agreed between our external (KPMG) and internal auditors (SWAP). The focus of the protocol is to strengthen further the working relationship and ability to place reliance on SWAP's work, and help ensure efficiencies for the Council as well as a strong control environment.

**Executive Summary**

2. The attached protocol is for member's information following a request at the last main Audit Committee so members could assess how both our auditors were working together. Following that Committee our auditors met to discuss and agree a protocol to inform their testing. This was done across all areas of the partnership where KPMG and SWAP are external and internal auditors respectively, so members will note the protocol is the same as applied to other local authorities.
3. The protocol sets out in detail some of the key requirements for SWAP and KPMG to follow in order to provide a strong foundation with a view to helping ensure testing by SWAP can be relied upon by KPMG. This is to be welcomed and its application and success will be reported to future Audit Committees.

**Proposal**

4. Members are asked to note the KPMG/SWAP Audit Protocol and receive further updates on its application and success.

## **Reasons for Proposals**

5. To ensure effective external and internal audit functions and cost effective services.

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Unpublished documents relied upon in the preparation of this Report: None.

Appendices: A – KPMG / SWAP Protocol