

## **Audit and Scrutiny Panel – Report from Cllr Ian Swithenbank CBE (Chairman)**

1. At its last meeting on 6 March, the Panel reviewed the second report for 2011/12 from the LGA's new internal auditors, Parkhill, covering audits of the LGA's corporate governance, key financial controls and risk management. Substantial assurance opinions have been given for the LGA's corporate governance and key financial controls and adequate assurance for risk management.
2. The internal auditors also reported on implementation of the recommendations from the 2010/11 internal audit, with 69 recommendations having been implemented, 6 still outstanding and 3 not accepted. A substantial assurance opinion has been provided by Parkhill for management's own tracking and reporting on completed internal audit recommendations.
3. The Panel received feedback on the two scrutiny reviews for 2011/12 that are now underway – one on the LGA's overheads, and the other on the LGA's offer to councils. The Panel noted the progress being made with the reviews which are due to report with their final recommendations to the Panel's July meeting.
4. The Panel reviewed the LGA's strategic risk register which has been amended so it aligns with the LGA's business plan for 2012-13 and also the LGA's key performance indicators. The risk register will be kept under review by the Panel and also regularly reported to the LGA's Leadership Board.

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