

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE

4.00pm 29 SEPTEMBER 2009

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Hamilton (Chairman), Watkins (Deputy Chairman), Alford, Fallon-Khan, Kitcat, Simpson, Smith, Taylor and G Theobald

PART ONE

30. AUDIT COMMISSION: HEALTH INEQUALITIES ASSESSMENT REPORT

- 30.1 The Committee considered a report from the Audit Commission regarding the Health Inequalities Assessment Report (for copy see minute book).
- 30.2 The District Auditor began by summarising the report and stating that the Health Inequalities Assessment Report had been included in the 2008/09 audit plan for the Primary Care Trust and Brighton & Hove City Council. The report examined partnership working in Brighton & Hove on health inequalities and acknowledged the work already being done in this area. A focus on housing issues had been chosen and the conclusion had been good, but it was noted that more work needed to be done on sharing priorities and identifying and addressing need.
- 30.3 Councillor Watkins asked why the report had been submitted to the Audit Committee as an item for discussion. The Director of Finance & Resources stated that it was part of the Committee's remit to take this item and the District Auditor added it was for information only but demonstrated part of the work the Commission was doing for the audit fee they charged.
- 30.4 The Chairman asked if this item would be taken forward to the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) and the District Auditor stated that this would be a matter for Officers to decide.
- 30.5 Councillor Kitcat asked why more joined up working in terms of the Primary Care Trust making representations at Licensing Panels was not considered. The District Auditor stated that only one theme had been chosen for the basis of the report and this related to housing issues. She recognised there was still much progress to be made on further joint working between partners however.
- 30.6 Councillor Watkins was concerned about how the recommendations from the report would be followed up and actions monitored, and the Chairman agreed, asking who would implement the recommendations of the report. The District Auditor stated that the

implementation of recommendations would form part of the action plan and it was the responsibility of Officers to monitor this.

30.7 The Chairman proposed that this item be referred to HOSC, and this was seconded by Councillor Watkins.

30.8 **RESOLVED** – That:

1. The Health Inequalities Assessment report is noted.
2. The Health Inequalities Assessment report is referred to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for noting and monitoring of the recommendations.

The meeting concluded at 6.30pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of