

# **WEST YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY**

## **AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

**DATE: 16 DECEMBER 2008**

**AGENDA ITEM NO: 5**

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER FOR 2007/08**

### **Report of the Clerk and Chief Financial Officer**

#### **1. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 1.1. The receipt of the Annual Audit letter from the Audit Commission at the conclusion of the audit for 2007/08.

#### **2. INFORMATION**

- 2.1. An annual audit letter (AAL) is received each year from the Auditor to conclude the annual audit and summarise any findings during the year. A copy of that letter for 2007/08 is attached as Appendix A.
- 2.2. The AAL gives a very brief summary of the audit work undertaken in the year, including the audit of the accounts and the related annual governance report (report provided to Members at the September meeting).
- 2.3. Overall the conclusions are positive, noting the unqualified opinions provided on both the accounts and the value for money conclusion. It also notes the effectiveness of current arrangements notes the continuing progress made and identifies areas for consideration for further enhancement. Paragraphs 1 to 5 on page 3 set out the key findings for the year and set out two recommendations. The development of a three year corporate plan is already well underway and addresses the first of the recommendations.
- 2.4. Work will be undertaken to ascertain how best to further develop the value for money measurements whilst recognising that the arrangements in place for securing value for money have been recognised as satisfactory. Detailed service reviews have been undertaken in the past which have assisted in achieving the Gershon efficiencies required over the last three years. Further work on demonstrating value for money and delivering efficiencies will be coordinated by the Business Improvement Group. One of the key areas will be a review overseen by the tendered services working group to determine how to make the most effective use of the funds available.

2.5. Pages 6 to 8 set out further details to support the Audit Commission's conclusions in the above paragraphs.

**3. FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

**4. STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

4.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

**5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

**6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1. That Members note the Auditor's Annual Audit Letter.

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer

West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority