



West Lothian Council

AUDIT COMMITTEE

AUDIT OF COVALENT PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

REPORT BY INTERNAL AUDIT MANAGER

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Audit Committee of the results of our recent work on the Covalent performance management system.

B. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee notes the terms of this report.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

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| I Council Values | Being honest, open and accountable.
Making best use of resources. |
| II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment) | The 2005 Best Value audit of West Lothian Council identified the continued development of a comprehensive performance management system as an area for improvement. |
| III Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property) | None. |
| IV Consultations | Best Value Manager |

D. TERMS OF REPORT

In June 2009 I reported to the Audit Committee on our audit of the Covalent performance management system and the Committee asked for a further report to be presented to the December meeting.

Our audit work was undertaken in October and November 2009 and involved testing a random sample of 15 public performance reporting (PPR) indicators to determine whether they were up to date and accurate. The attached appendix details the results which are summarised as follows:

- we consider that the indicators were up to date;
- 11 of 14 indicators were considered to be accurate or to have minor errors which would not affect understanding of performance (79%);
- one indicator (LS052_9a.1a) although activated, was not considered appropriate, and has now been replaced by indicator LS056.

E. CONCLUSION

The audit findings represent an improvement on the previous findings reported to the Committee in June 2009. However, further improvement is required and I will continue

to liaise with heads of service and the Best Value Manager to ensure that information within Covalent is an accurate reflection of service performance.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Report to the Audit Committee 3 June 2009: Audit of Covalent Performance Management System.

Appendices/Attachments: Audit Findings

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