

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

EXECUTIVE MEETING – 9TH FEBRUARY 2004.

REPORT FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

FOR ACTION

NAME OF WARDS

ALL

FP Ref PRU-03/04-13

RELATIONSHIP MANAGER LETTER 2003
FROM THE AUDIT COMMISSION

1. **Summary**

- 1.1 This covering report introduces the Relationship Manager Letter 2003 from the Audit Commission. This letter is produced as part of the CPA process by the Council's relationship manager at the Audit Commission. The purpose of the Letter is to record the views of the Audit Commission on the progress made by Brent in improving the performance of their services.

2. **Recommendations**

Members of the Executive are recommended to:

- 2.1 note the comments of the Audit Commission with regard to the progress made in improving the performance and quality of services provided by the Council.
- 2.2 refer the Relationship Manager Letter to the Performance and Finance Select Committee for consideration.

3. **Financial Implications**

- 3.1 There are none specific to this report

4. **Staffing Implications**

- 4.1 There are none specific to this report

5. **Detailed Considerations**

- 5.1 As part of the annual Comprehensive Performance Assessment process the Audit Commission has introduced a qualitative statement of the

Councils progress in implementing its improvement priorities to accompany the formal scoring process.

- 5.2 In December 2003 Brent was rated a fair authority with the Manager Letter highlighting the significant progress made in the past year in improving services, in particular the achievement of a 3 star excellent rating for our Housing service.
- 5.3 The Audit Commission views the direction of travel in Brent to be generally positive and considers the authority to be well placed in terms of its managerial and service planning practices to achieve further service improvement.
- 5.4 The Corporate Management Team have placed improving performance and the quality of local services at the top of its priorities. The council is committed to responding to the views of external inspectorates on areas of concern and working constructively with the Audit Commission to achieve the highest standards of local public administration.

6. **Background Information.**

Letter from Audit Commission – Relationship Manager Letter LB Brent, December 2003

The contact officer for further information is Cathy Wellstead, Corporate Policy Manager, Policy and Regeneration Unit, Town Hall – Room 221, Wembley, Middlesex, HA9 9HD Tel: 020 8937 1045.

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