

	Executive 16th January 2006 Report from the Chief Executive
For Action	Wards Affected: ALL
2004/2005 Joint Audit and Inspection Letter	

Forward Plan ref: F&CR-05/06-25

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report accompanies the Joint Audit and Inspection Letter for 2004/2005. The Letter is issued by the Audit Commission and PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members are recommended to note its contents and that a report responding to the main recommendations will be presented to a future meeting of the Executive.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1 PwC are the appointed auditors of the Council and are required to issue an annual Audit Letter at the completion of the audit. From 2003/2004 this has been in the form of a joint report incorporating the inspection work undertaken by the Audit Commission.
- 3.2 The document constitutes the detail and representatives from PwC and the Audit Commission will be at the meeting. However a report will be brought to a future meeting of the Executive which will provide detailed proposals and options to address the main recommendations and themes in the report.
- 3.3 The Letter will be sent to all Members of the Council and be made available to residents in each Library and on the internet.

- 3.4 Pages 15 – 17 of the Letter set out the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) rating for the Council at December 2005. The assessment was done using the revised methodology: CPA – the harder test. It shows that Brent is improving well and its overall CPA category is 3. (1=lowest and 4=highest)

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Audit Letter is directly linked to the financial performance and management of the Council.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None specific.

6. DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The proposals in the report have been subject to screening and officers believe that there are no specific diversity implications arising from it.

7. STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Several of the key issues have specific and obvious implications for individual staff and Members. However, the Letter addresses the overall good health of the Authority and is therefore of great significance to all managers.

8. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

All the background information is contained in the Letter appended to this report.

9. CONTACT OFFICERS

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