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Report 00.880

30 November 2000

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Report to the Policy and Finance Committee
from Greg Schollum, Chief Financial Officer

Summary of 2000 Audit – Report from Audit New Zealand

1. Purpose

To receive the report from Audit New Zealand which provides a summary of the audit for the year ended 30 June 2000 (refer **Attachment 1**).

2. Background

At the Council meeting on 26 October 2000 the Council resolved to adopt the 1999/2000 annual report.

Erica Mason, the Director from Audit New Zealand, was present at the 26 October 2000 meeting to verbally convey her views about financial management within the Council.

Her letter dated 23 November 2000, attached, is the formal closure of the 1999/2000 audit process.

3. Comment

Audit New Zealand have assessed the Council as in previous years on aspects of its systems. This year Audit New Zealand's assessments are:

	Assessment
Financial Control Systems	Good
Financial Management Information Systems	Excellent
Financial Management Control Environment	Excellent
Service Performance Information and Information Systems	Good
Service Performance Management Control Environment	Excellent

Officers are very pleased to have achieved three excellent grades out of five, one more than last year.

In my view this is a very satisfying result, particularly given the additional stress imposed by the new financial system on key people and processes. This reflects well on the solid management control framework within the Council.

4. Matters raised by Audit New Zealand

There are no significant matters raised by Audit New Zealand in the attached letter. The only matter of substance that they have raised is the need for annual leave to be more actively managed in the future. This matter is already under action by the General Manager.

5. Communications

The positive gradings received represent good news that should be shared with the community.

6. Recommendation

That the report be received and the contents noted.

GREG SCHOLLUM
Chief Financial Officer

Attachment 1: Letter from Audit New Zealand dated 23 November 2000