



Report: 03.35
Date: 17 February 2003
File: CFO/4/1/12

Committee Policy, Finance and Strategy
Author Greg Schollum Chief Financial Officer

Summary of 2002 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 2002 (refer **Attachment 1**)

2. Background

Each year after the conclusion of the audit, Audit New Zealand provides the Council with a summary of the results of their audit, including assessment of Council's financial and non-financial controls.

This information should be consistent with the oral advice Councillors receive each year as part of the adoption of the Council's annual report.

3. Comment

As in previous years Audit New Zealand have assessed the Council on five aspects of its system of internal control. Audit New Zealand's assessments are as follows:

	2002 Assessment	2001 Assessment
• Financial Control Systems	Excellent	Excellent
• Financial Management Information Systems	Excellent	Excellent
• Financial Management Control Environment	Excellent	Excellent
• Service Performance Information and Information Systems	Excellent	Excellent
• Service Performance Management Control Environment	Excellent	Excellent

This is consistent with what the Committee was advised on 31 October 2002, just prior to the adoption of the 2002 annual report.

Officers are delighted to have retained five excellent grades out of five. This reflects well on the solid management control framework within the Council and coupled with Council's AA credit rating reinforces the quality of the financial management framework in operation.

4. Matters raised by Audit New Zealand

Where appropriate, officers have included comment within the attached audit letter in respect of the matters raised. In my view, there are no matters which cause me significant concern.

5. Communications

The positive gradings from Audit New Zealand represent good news that I would expect the media would wish to share with the community.

6. Recommendation

That the Committee recommend that the Council receive the report and note its contents.

Report prepared by: _____ :

Greg Schollum
Chief Financial Officer

Attachment 1: Letter from Audit New Zealand dated 6 December 2002