

**Issues Arising Report
for Luton & South Bedfordshire Joint
Committee
Audit for the year ended
31 March 2009**



Introduction

The following matters have been raised to draw items to the attention of Luton & South Bedfordshire Joint Committee. These matters came to the attention of BDO LLP during the audit of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2009.

The audit of the annual return may not disclose all shortcomings of the systems as some matters may not have come to the attention of the auditor. For this reason, the matters raised may not be the only ones that exist.

The matters listed below are explained in further detail on the page(s) that follow;

- Publication Scheme for Freedom of Information Act 2000

The following issues have resulted in the annual return being qualified. They indicate a weakness in the body's procedures and they require the body to take immediate action.

Publication Scheme for Freedom of Information Act 2000

What is the issue?

The body have not adopted the model publication scheme in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Instead they have relied on the scheme published by their host authority.

Why has this issue been raised?

It is a requirement of Section 20 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for every public authority to adopt the model scheme issued by the Information Commissioner's Office or where amendments are made by the body to the model scheme, approval must be sought from the Information Commissioner.

The new model publication scheme came into effect on 1 January 2009

What do we recommend you do?

The body must adopt the Model Publication Scheme as soon as possible and in any event before the end of the current financial year. The body should contact the Information Commissioner's Office who will be able to provide them with the Model Publication Scheme.

Further guidance on this matter can be obtained from the following source(s):

www.ico.gov.uk/Home/what_we_cover/freedom_of_information/publication_schemes/publication_schemes_eng.aspx

No other matters came to our attention.

For and on behalf of
BDO LLP

Date: 24 May 2010