

Audit Committee – 25th October 2007

5. Data Quality Strategy

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Purpose of the Report

This report introduces the draft Data Quality Strategy for South Somerset District Council (copy attached at pages 15-55).

Recommendation

That Audit Committee consider the Data Quality Strategy and refer it to District Executive for approval.

Background

The Audit Commission, in the last year, has placed increased emphasis on the quality of data that local authorities use to inform development of services and national comparisons.

To formalise this emphasis, the Audit Commission introduced a Data Quality score as a component of the Use of Resources for the first time, in 2006. The score for South Somerset District Council currently stands at 2 out of 4. The judgement takes into account the formal structure for management of data quality and the Commission is actively encouraging local authorities to have a Data Quality strategy.

The Council's Audit Commission auditors have been invited to comment on the draft strategy. This final draft incorporates their comments and is therefore supported by the Commission.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications in approving this policy.

Consultation

Internal

- Management Board – 26th June 07
- Senior Managers' Forum – 18th July 2007
- Audit Committee – 25th October 2007

External

- Audit Commission auditors

Background Papers: Data Quality Strategy
