

Terms of Reference for Audit Committee

<p>Audit Committee:</p>	<p>6 members of the Council excluding members of the Executive, in accordance with the political balance requirements</p>	
<p>Terms of Reference:</p>		
<p>1. To consider the Head of Internal Audit's annual report and opinion, and a summary of Internal Audit activity (actual and proposed) and the level of assurance it can give over the Council's corporate governance arrangements.</p>	<p>Conservative (4)</p>	<p>Councillors Addis, Bent, Brooksbank and Hill</p>
<p>2. To consider summaries of specific Internal Audit reports as requested.</p>	<p>Liberal Democratic (2)</p>	<p>Councillors Pountney and Stocks</p>
<p>3. To consider reports dealing with the management and performance of the providers of Internal Audit Services.</p>		
<p>4. To consider a report from Internal Audit on agreed recommendations not implemented within a reasonable timescale.</p>		
<p>5. To consider the External Auditor's Annual Letter, relevant reports, and the report to those charged with governance.</p>		
<p>6. To consider specific reports as agreed with the External Auditor.</p>		
<p>7. To comment on the scope and depth of external audit work and to ensure it gives value for money.</p>		
<p>8. To liaise with the Audit Commission over the appointment of the Council's external auditor.</p>		
<p>9. To commission work from Internal and External Audit within approved resources.</p>		
<p>Regulatory Framework</p>		
<p>10. To maintain a strategic overview of the Council's Constitution in respect of contract procedure rules, financial regulations and codes of conduct and behaviour (the primary responsibility for considering and</p>		

<p>ensuring that the constitution is fit for purpose lies with the Monitoring Officer and the Standards Committee in relation to the codes of conduct).</p> <p>11. To review any issue referred to it by the Chief Executive, a Commissioner, the Monitoring officer, Section 151 Officer (Chief Finance Officer) or any Council body.</p> <p>12. To monitor the effective development and operation of risk management and corporate governance in the Council.</p> <p>13. To monitor council policies on 'Raising Concerns at Work' and the 'Anti-fraud and corruption strategy' and the Council's complaints process.</p> <p>14. To oversee the production of the authority's Statement on Internal Control and to recommend its adoption.</p> <p>15. To oversee the Council's arrangements for corporate governance and consider necessary actions to ensure compliance with best practice.</p> <p>16. To review the Code of Corporate Governance.</p> <p>17. To monitor the Council's compliance with its own and other published standards and controls.</p> <p>Accounts</p> <p>18. On behalf of the Council, to approve the annual statement of accounts.</p> <p>19. To consider the External Auditor's report to those charged with governance on issues arising from the audit of the accounts.</p>		
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