

Audit Committee

26th March 2019



Report of: Service Director Legal & Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer)

Title: Annual Review of the Audit Committee terms of reference

Ward: Citywide

Officer presenting report: Nancy Rollason, Head of Legal Service.

Recommendation:-

1. The committee considers and comments on the terms of reference and advises if there are any amendments or additions that should be made.

Summary

1. The Audit Committee terms of reference were reviewed, updated and approved by the committee and Full Council in May 2018.

2. In December 2018 Full Council agreed that the terms of reference for the committee be updated to include consideration of proposed changes to the Council's constitution.

3. The Committee's work plan includes an annual review of its terms of reference.



Policy

1. The Audit Committee is a key component of the Council's governance framework. Its function is to provide an independent and high level resource to support good governance and effective public financial management.
2. The purpose of an Audit Committee is to provide those charged with governance, independent assurance on the adequacy of the risk management framework, the internal control environment and the integrity of the financial reporting and annual governance processes.

Consultation

1. Internal

Monitoring Officer, Deputy Monitoring Officer.

External

Not applicable.

Context

1. The Audit Committee terms of reference were reviewed, updated and approved by the committee and full Council in May 2018.
2. In December 2018 Full Council agreed that the terms of reference for the committee be updated to include consideration of proposed changes to the Council's constitution:-

To receive assurance reports on the effectiveness of the Council's Constitution in respect of contract procedure rules, financial regulations, codes of conduct and behaviour and to periodically consider proposed changes to the Constitution in order to make recommendations for amendments to Full Council.
3. The Committee's work plan includes an annual review of the terms of reference.
4. This is a routine annual review and an opportunity to consider how the terms of reference are supporting the work of the Committee.
5. There are no recommendations from officers for change this year. The terms of reference have been recently updated.
6. Members are asked to consider and comment on the terms of reference and advise if there are any amendments or additions that should be made.

Other Options Considered

2. None necessary.

Risk Assessment

Legal and Resource Implications

Legal implications:

As set out in the report.

Financial:

(a) Revenue

Not applicable.

(b) Capital

Not applicable.

Land/Property

Not applicable.

Human Resources

Not applicable.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Terms of Reference for Audit Committee

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers: none