

Audit Committee

24 June 2021



Report of: *Director: Legal and Democratic Services*

Title: *Access to Information for Audit Committee*

Ward: *n/a*

Officer Presenting Report: *Director: Legal and Democratic Services*

Recommendation

That the committee notes the contents of the report.

Summary

This report provides an overview of the types of information that the Audit Committee will receive in order to discharge their functions.

The significant issues in the report are:

The report is for noting and is provided in response to previous questions raised by the Audit Committee regarding access to information.



Policy

1. This report has been prepared in response to an action from the previous Audit Committee where further detail was requested about the types of information that should be made available to enable the committee to discharge its functions.

Consultation

2. **Internal**
The Director: Finance, Chief Internal Auditor and Head of Legal have been consulted in the preparation of this report.
3. **External**
The External Auditor and the Independent Member of the Audit Committee have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

Context

4. Access to information has been a recurring theme at the Audit Committee for over 12 months and concerns have been raised by members of the committee that they have not had access to information. To address those concerns, a report setting out the legal framework for access to information was provided to the committee at its meeting in November 2020.
5. Following further discussion at the Audit Committee in January 2021 about access to information, it was agreed that officers would consider with the Chair, Vice-chair and Independent Member of the Committee the types of information that the committee should receive to enable it to fulfil its duties.
6. Building on the previous report and discussion at the committee, this report seeks to provide further assurance to the committee about the information that it should receive in order to fulfil its duties.
7. The appendix to this report identifies the core functions of the committee and the types of information that should routinely be made available to the committee when it is considering matters which relate to those functions.

Proposal

8. The committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Access to Information for Audit Committee functions

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

None