

AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – TERMS OF REFERENCE

Number of members	7
Politically Balanced Y/N	Y
Quorum	3 (new - to include at least one member of the Majority Group)
Procedure Rules applicable	Council Procedure Rules (with the exception of Council Procedure Rules 1-4, 10, 14, 18.2, 20.1 and 22)
Terms of Reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To review and monitor the annual audit plans of both the internal and external auditors. b. To receive and comment upon the external auditors' reports. c. To monitor the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's system of internal control by ensuring that an adequate and effective system of internal financial controls is maintained, that financial procedures are regularly reviewed. d. To consider and approve the Council's Annual Statements Of Accounts. e. To consider, monitor and review the Council's overall corporate governance arrangements. f. To ensure that a corporate risk management strategy is in place, to consider, monitor and review the effectiveness of the Council's risk management arrangements and seek assurances that action is being taken to address identified risk related issues.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> g. To consider any report from the Internal Audit Manager in pursuance of Financial Regulations. h. To ensure good stewardship of the Council's resources and assist the Council to achieve value for money in the provision of its services. i. To enhance the profile, status and authority of the internal audit function which will demonstrate its independence. j. To contribute towards making the Council, its Committees and Directorates more responsive to the audit function. k. To focus audit resources by agreeing, and periodically reviewing, audit plans and monitoring delivery of the audit service. l. To receive and consider such internal audit reports that the Chair and/or Acting Deputy Chief Executive considers necessary. m. To keep under review and make recommendations on proposed amendments to Financial Regulations. n. To consider and make recommendations if appropriate on, the Annual Governance Statement.
Special provisions as to the Chair	For the sake of independence, the Chair will be an "Opposition" Member.
Special provisions as to membership	<p>The Committee to comprise elected Members representing all interests of the Authority, preferably with relevant areas of expertise, where possible (such areas as accountancy, audit, business and commerce.)</p> <p>Can be members of the Executive Committee.</p>