

AUDIT COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 2023

Report of the Audit Manager

Part A

CIPFA POSITION STATEMENT: AUDIT COMMITTEES IN LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE 2022

Purpose of Report

To inform members of the publication of CIPFA's 2022 edition of Audit Committees: Practical Guidance for Local Authorities and Police and to consider best practice recommendations within the guidance

Recommendations

1. That the Audit committee notes the report;
2. That the Audit Committee agrees to establish a cross party member working group, to be drawn from the audit and governance committee appointed at council on 23 May 2023, to work with the audit manager and the Chair of the Audit Committee to undertake a self assessment and training needs analysis and report back to the meeting of audit and governance committee at the July meeting.

Reasons

- 1&2 To ensure that the committee is aware of the updated guidance to meet its statutory responsibilities for governance and internal control arrangements, financial management, financial reporting and internal audit.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

CIPFA have updated their Position Statement to promote best practice and provide clear guidance for local authorities to maximise the effectiveness of their Audit Committees.

The guidance is not legislative but CIPFA expects that all local government bodies should make their best efforts to adopt the principles, aiming for effective audit committee arrangements.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions

The committee is required to report annually on how it has complied with the position statement, discharged its responsibilities, and include an assessment of its performance.

Report Implications

Financial Implications

None

Risk Management

None identified

Equality and Diversity

None identified

Climate Change and Carbon Impact

None identified

Crime and Disorder

None identified

Publicity Arrangements

Not applicable

Consultations

Not applicable

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Caring for the Environment	No
Healthy Communities	No
A Thriving Economy	No
Your Council	Yes

Background Papers:

Position Statement: Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Police 2022 (appendix A of the attached report)

Audit committees: practical guidance for local authorities and police (to be circulated)

Officer(s) to contact:

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Part B

In May 2022, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA) published a revised and updated edition of the document *Position Statement: Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Police 2022*. In addition to the statement CIPFA also released guidance documentation in October 2022 – *Audit committees: practical guidance for local authorities and police*.

The previous version of the guidance was issued in 2018. The revised version builds on the previous versions and includes updates to the core functions and membership of the committee.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Summary of changes and proposed action plan.