

AUDIT COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 11 JULY 2023

Report of the Head of Governance & Human Resources

Part A

UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CIPFA POSITION STATEMENT: AUDIT COMMITTEES IN LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE 2022

Purpose of Report

To update members on the initial meeting of the CIPFA Position Statement: Audit Committees in Local Authorities working, as agreed at Audit Committee on 25 April 2023.

Recommendations

1. The Audit Committee notes the report, appendix 1.
2. That the Audit Committee agrees the proposed action plan detailed in appendix 1.

Reasons

1 & 2. To ensure that the committee meets its statutory responsibilities for governance and internal control arrangements, financial management, financial reporting and internal audit.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

CIPFA have update 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:

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

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

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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 support of the statement CIPFA also released guidance documentation in October 2022.

A report was presented to Audit Committee on 25 April 2023 proposing the initial steps to the implementation of the position statement.

Appendices

Appendix 1