



Report to: Audit & Governance Committee Meeting
31 July 2024

Director or Business Manager Lead: Nick Wilson, Business Manager – Financial Services

Lead Officer: Nick Wilson, Business Manager – Financial Services

Report Summary	
Report Title	Assessment of the effectiveness of the Internal Audit Function and the Audit and Governance Committee
Purpose of Report	To inform members of the Committee of the requirement to assess the effectiveness of the Internal Audit function and the Audit and Governance Committee and for the Committee to recommend members to undertake these exercises.
Recommendations	That the Committee recommends appropriate members to undertake the assessments
Reason for Recommendation	In order to ensure that the Internal Audit Function and the Committee are working as efficiently and effectively as possible and fulfilling their respective duties

1.0 Background

- 1.1 In 2015, the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) were updated. One of the requirements of the PSIAS is that a regular review of the effectiveness of the Internal Audit function is carried out.
- 1.2 A second requirement is that a self-assessment of the effectiveness of the Audit & Governance Committee is carried out.
- 1.3 At the meeting of the Audit and Accounts Committee held on 1st December 2021 , the Committee considered a report which reviewed the effectiveness of the Internal Audit function and the self-assessment of the Audit and Accounts Committee (as was named at that point).
- 1.4 The self-assessment of the Audit and Accounts Committee was undertaken using a questionnaire provided within CIPFA’s Practical Guidance for Audit Committees. An

action plan was created in order to ensure that the Committee conforms to the best practice guidance.

- 1.5 The final recommendation from the report in December 2021, was that a further review into the effectiveness of the Internal Audit function and a self-assessment of the effectiveness of the Audit and Accounts Committee be undertaken during September 2023.
- 1.6 At the time of writing the report in December 2021, the changes in the Committee's structure and membership was not envisaged and hence due to the large scale changes, and also the change in Internal Auditor, it was felt that conducting the review in September 2023, would not have been effective. Hence this was deferred until September 2024.

2.0 Proposals

- 2.1 It is therefore suggested that the assessments of both Audit & Governance Committee and the Internal Audit Function are completed prior to the next Audit & Governance Committee meeting.
- 2.2 It is suggested that members recommend three members from the Committee to undertake the assessments and report back on their findings.

Background Papers and Published Documents

NIL