

## Audit Committee Terms of Reference

TITLE	AUDIT COMMITTEE
<b>POWERS / REMIT</b>	
<p><b>(a) Main Purposes:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework and the associated control environment;</li> <li>2. Scrutinise the council's financial and non-financial performance to the extent that it affects the council's exposure to risk and weakens the control environment;</li> <li>3. Oversee the financial reporting process;</li> <li>4. Approve the Council's Statement of Accounts;</li> <li>5. Comment on the scope and nature of external audit;</li> <li>6. Oversee proposed and actual changes to the council's policies and procedures pertaining to governance.</li> </ol> <p><b>(B) Main Functions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reviewing the mechanisms for the assessment and management of risk;</li> <li>2. Approving the council's statement of accounts;</li> <li>3. Receiving the council's reports on the Statement on the Annual Governance Statement and recommending their adoption;</li> <li>4. Approving Internal Audit's strategy, planning and monitoring performance;</li> <li>5. Receiving the Annual Report and other reports on the work of Internal Audit;</li> <li>6. Considering the external auditor's annual letter, relevant reports and the report to those charged with governance and the council's responses to them;</li> <li>7. Considering arrangements for and the merits of operating quality assurance and performance management processes;</li> <li>8. Considering the exercise of officers' statutory responsibilities and of functions delegated to officers;</li> <li>9. To recommend external audit arrangements for the council;</li> <li>10. To receive and consider the results of reports from external inspectors, ombudsman and similar bodies and from statutory officers;</li> <li>11. Overseeing the Partnership Governance Framework, including annual health checks and the Register of Significant Partnerships.</li> </ol>	
<b>ACCOUNTABLE TO:</b> Council	
<b>MEETINGS:</b> Normally six per annum plus specials where required	
<b>MEMBERSHIP:</b> 9 non-executive members (politically balanced) plus 1 independent member.	
<b>ESTABLISHED SUB COMMITTEES:</b> None.	