

Audit Committee – 22 March 2024

Title of paper:	Audit Committee Improvement Plan	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Ross Brown – Corporate Director for Finance and Resources and Section 151 Officer	Wards affected: All
Report author(s) and contact details:	Kate Morris, Scrutiny and Audit Support Officer Kate.morris@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Nancy Barnard – Governance Manager	
Does this report contain any information that is exempt from publication? No		
Recommendation(s):		
1.	To approve the Audit Committee Improvement Plan	

1. Reasons for recommendations

1.1 The committee is asked to approve the Audit Committee Improvement Plan to allow a structured and trackable programme of work to start to address improvements identified.

2. Background

2.1 In 2022 the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) issued a new Position Statement and guidance for Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Police 2022 updating their guidance from 2018 around the purpose, model, core functions and membership of the audit committee.

2.2 Along side the Position Statement a suite of guidance and documentation was issued to help Audit Committees including a Self-Assessment designed to help develop an effective Audit Committee through identifying best practice.

2.3 In February 2024 members of the Audit committee and officers working closely with it were invited to complete the Audit Self Assessment document collaboratively to review how the Committee incorporates the key principles set out in the CIPFA position statement 2022.

2.4 From the responses to the self assessment document and discussions between members and officers, a number of areas were identified that required improvement in order to reflect best practice. These were used as the basis for creating the Audit Improvement Plan.

2.5 The Plan, attached as Appendix 1, has been developed to encourage ownership by Committee members alongside support officers, to implement best practice and improve the impact and effectiveness of the Audit Committee.

2.6 The Plan will be brought back to Committee at regular intervals to update progress.

3. **Background papers other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information**
 - 3.1 None
4. **Published documents referred to in compiling this report**
 - 4.1 Position Statement and guidance for Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Police 2022 – Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
 - 4.2 Audit Committees: Practical guidance for Local Authorities and Police 2022 edition – Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
 - 4.3 Appendix E – Self Assessment of good practice