

Agenda Item No:

Report To: Audit Committee

Date of Meeting: 3 October 2023

Report Title: Audit Committee Annual Report for 2022/23

Report Author: Katherine Woodward

Job Title: Head of Mid Kent Audit Partnership



Summary: This report outlines how the Audit Committee has effectively discharged its duties during 2022/23. The report provides assurance to the Council that important internal control, governance and risk management issues are being monitored and addressed by the committee.

Key Decision: NO

Significantly Affected Wards: All

Recommendations: **The Committee is recommended to:-**

- I. That the annual report of the Audit Committee activity for 2022/23 is **agreed**.
- II. That the Chair of the Audit Committee **presents** the report to a future meeting of the Full Council to demonstrate how the Committee has discharged its duties.

Policy Overview: The Audit Committee is required to monitor audit activity (internal and external), review and comment on the effectiveness of the Council's regulatory framework and review and approve the Council's annual statement of accounts and associated strategies and policies. This report sets out how this has been achieved during 2022/23.

Financial Implications: N/A

Legal Implications: N/A

Equalities Impact Assessment: No direct implications

Data Protection Impact Assessment: N/A

**Risk Assessment
(Risk Appetite
Statement):** N/A

**Sustainability
Implications:** N/A

**Other Material
Implications:** N/A

**Exempt from
Publication:** NO

**Background
Papers:**

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Report Title: Audit Committee Annual Report for 2022/23

Purpose of the Report

1. The report outlines how the Audit Committee has effectively discharged its duties during 2022/23. The report provides assurance to the Council that important internal control, governance and risk management issues are being monitored and addressed by the Committee.
2. The report will be presented to Full Council at a future date to demonstrate how the Committee has discharged its duties during 2022/23.

Background

3. The production and presentation of an annual report is something that the Committee has done for several years and is recognised as good practice.

Conclusion

4. The Committee consists of some new members so this report will be discussed at Audit Committee to gain their views before a final report will be presented to Full Council.
5. The draft report was circulated to the Chair of the Audit Committee prior to submission for this meeting.

Implication assessment

6. The Committee could decide that they no longer wish to publish an annual report, however, this would not be advised. Oversight and monitoring of the Council's activities is a vital part of effective governance. Without an update from the Audit Committee, Council would lose a key source of assurance regarding the effectiveness of the arrangements in place to ensure good governance, risk management and internal control.

Contact and Email

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