

Regulatory and Other Committee

Open Report on behalf of Pete Moore, Executive Director Finance and Public Protection

Report to:	Audit Committee
Date:	26 September 2016
Subject:	Review of Audit & Inspection Financial Procedure 7 & Internal Audit Charter

Summary:

One of the key roles of the Audit Committee is to ensure that the Council has effective audit arrangements in place.

There are two key policy documents to support this activity:

- 1 Financial Procedure 7 - Audit and Inspection, and
- 2 Internal Audit Charter.

This report presents the Committee with the revised documents - taking into account the recently updated UK Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

Recommendation(s):

That the Committee:

- 1 Considers and approves the revised Audit & Inspection Financial Procedure 7 (subject to any changes it wishes to be made) and:
- 2 Considers and comments on the draft Internal Audit Charter prior to wider consultation and approval by the Corporate Management Team.

Background

Financial Procedure 7 – Audit and Inspection

This procedure forms part of the Financial Regulations and procedures in the Constitution of the Council. It aims to inform officers and members of the mandatory requirements and provide guidance on good practice in the roles of internal and external audit and other inspection regimes.

The revised draft has taken into account the revised UK Public Sector Internal Audit Standards which were published in April 2016 and in the Accounts and Audit

Regulations 2015. A copy of revised Financial Procedure 7 – Audit and Inspection is attached in Appendix A.

In discharging its role of having oversight of the Council's audit arrangements the Committee are asked to consider and approve the content ensuring that includes the areas it wishes to be **mandatory elements** and key areas of best practice.

Track changes has been used to help identify where the procedure has been amended

Internal Audit Charter

The Internal Audit Charter is a key document setting out the nature, role, responsibilities and authority of the Internal Audit Service within the Council.

It has been updated to ensure conformance with the revised UK Public Sector Internal Audit Standards – published in April 2016

As one of the Committee's roles is the oversight and monitoring of the effectiveness of Internal Audit Service the draft Charter is being presented to enable the opportunity to note and comment on the content before wider consultation.

The draft Charter is attached in Appendix B

Conclusion

Audit and Inspection forms a key component of the Council's governance framework and assurance arrangements. The Audit & Inspection Financial Procedure and Internal Audit Charter will strengthen our policy and procedures in this area.

Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

N/A

Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Financial Procedure 7 - Audit & Inspection

Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
UK Public Sector Internal Audit Standards	Internet
Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015	Internet

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