

Audit Committee Meeting	Agenda Item: 5
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Meeting Date	19 June 2012
Report Title	Audit Committee – Annual Report 2011/12
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Dewar-Whalley – Finance Portfolio
SMT Lead	Mark Radford – Director of Corporate Services
Head of Service	Brian Parsons – Head of Audit Partnership
Lead Officer	Brian Parsons – Head of Audit Partnership
Key Decision	No
Classification	Open

Recommendations	1. That the Audit Committee agree the format and content of the Annual Committee Report.
	2. That the Chairman of the Audit Committee provides the report to a meeting of the Full Council to demonstrate how the Committee has discharged its duties.

Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

1.1 A report has been prepared which sets out how the Audit Committee has discharged its duties during 2011/12. The report provides assurance to the Council that important governance issues are being monitored and addressed by the Committee. The report provides further assurance to support the findings of the Annual Governance Statement.

2 Background

2.1 In 2011 the Council commissioned a peer review of the Audit Committee by Local Government Improvement and Development (LGID). This was part of a broader review of Audit Committees across the four Mid Kent district councils.

2.2 The Audit Committee considered the report from LGID early in 2011 and agreed that the Committee should in future produce an annual report of its activities and effectiveness; and that the report should be provided by the Chairman to a meeting of the full Council. The report would provide assurance to the Council that the responsibilities of the Committee are being met.

2.3 The Audit Committee is required to obtain assurance on the control environment and the report sets out how this has been achieved.

2.4 The report of the Audit Committee provides evidence to support the Annual Governance Statement, which appears elsewhere on the agenda.

3 Proposal

3.1 The Audit Committee is asked to agree the format and content of the Annual Audit Committee report.

3.2 That the Chairman of the Audit Committee provides the report to a meeting of the Full Council to demonstrate how the committee has discharged its duties

4 Alternative Options

4.1 The production of an annual report is considered to be good practice. No other option could be recommended.

5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

5.1 The Chairman and Vice Chairman have considered and agreed the format and content of the draft Annual Audit Committee Report for 2011/12.

6 Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	None identified at this stage
Financial, Resource and Property	The Audit Committee's role includes the review of the financial statements, external auditor's opinion and reports to Members, the monitoring of management action in response to the issues raised by external audit and the approval of the Annual Statement of Accounts
Legal and Statutory	None identified at this stage
Crime and Disorder	None identified at this stage
Risk Management and Health and Safety	The Audit Committee's role includes the need to consider the effectiveness of the authority's risk management arrangements, the control environment and associated anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements.
Equality and Diversity	None identified at this stage
Sustainability	None identified at this stage

7 Appendices

7.1 The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report

- Appendix I: Audit Committee Annual Report 2011/12

8 Background Papers

8.1 None