
EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON 16 APRIL 2012

AUC.25/12 AUDIT COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Audit Manager presented report RD.05/12 summarising the work undertaken by the Audit Committee during the period from 5 July 2011 to 13 January 2012.

The Audit Manager stated that the existence of the Audit Committee and its work programme enabled the Council to demonstrate that it was following the recommended best practice of the CIPFA Practical Guidance for Audit Committees in Local Authorities. The Committee had strengthened the Council's internal control process through its ability to ensure that systems and controls were robust; that challenges were raised as appropriate; and that adequate follow-up procedures were in operation in relation to audit recommendations. That had been noted and commented on by the Audit Commission's Audit Manager.

A Member asked whether it would be possible for Audit Committee Members to receive a written briefing note in advance of meetings, similar to that provided to Overview and Scrutiny Members.

In response, the Director of Governance explained that briefing Overview and Scrutiny Members fell within the remit of the Scrutiny Officer, but there was no such dedicated resource for the Audit Committee. It was also important to note that the business of the Audit Committee was in the main undertaken in public and documentation should be available for the public to see.

The Vice-Chairman added that private preparatory / briefing meetings for Members of the Committee were held prior to each meeting, at which full attendance by Members would be welcomed.

RESOLVED – That the Annual Report of the Audit Committee, which would be submitted to the City Council on 1 May 2012, be noted and accepted.