

Audit & Governance Committee Forward Plan to September 2015

Summary

1. This paper presents the future plan of reports expected to be presented to the Committee during the forthcoming year to September 2015.

Background

2. There are to be six fixed meetings of the Committee in a municipal year. To assist members in their work, attached as an Annex is the indicative rolling Forward Plan for meetings to September 2015. This may be subject to change depending on key internal control and governance developments at the time. A rolling Forward Plan of the Committee will be reported at every meeting reflecting any known changes.
3. A number of amendments have been made to the Forward plan since the previous version was presented to the Committee in September 2014.
4. The Information Security Update Report and Congestion Commission Report have both deferred from December, until the next Committee meeting in February.
5. The Contract Procedure Rules and Access to Information Reports have both also been deferred until February. It is proposed that members consider the inclusion of an additional item regarding general governance matters on the forward plan in response to recent political changes and issues currently being discussed with Group Leaders.

6. An update report on the new Transparency requirements has been added to the February Agenda. This report will update members on the Council's progress in implementing the new requirements.
7. An update report on Adult Social Care has been added to Agenda for the next meeting in February at the request of members at the last Committee meeting.
8. A report on the Local Government Association review has been included on the Agenda for this Committee meeting. As this is not the final report however, members may wish to consider as part of this item how and when they wish to receive the finalised review and consider the inclusion of an additional item for this final report on the forward plan.

Consultation

9. The Forward Plan is subject to discussion by members at each meeting, has been discussed with the Chair of the Committee and key corporate officers.

Options

10. Not relevant for the purpose of the report.

Analysis

11. Not relevant for the purpose of the report.

Council Plan

12. This report contributes to the overall effectiveness of the council's governance and assurance arrangements contributing to an 'Effective Organisation'.

Implications

13.
 - (a) **Financial** - There are no implications

- (b) **Human Resources (HR)** - There are no implications
- (c) **Equalities** - There are no implications
- (d) **Legal** - There are no implications
- (e) **Crime and Disorder** - There are no implications
- (f) **Information Technology (IT)** - There are no implications
- (g) **Property** - There are no implications

Risk Management

14. By not complying with the requirements of this report, the council will fail to have in place adequate scrutiny of its internal control environment and governance arrangements, and it will also fail to properly comply with legislative and best practice requirements.

Recommendations

15.
 - (a) The Committee's Forward Plan for the period up to September 2015 be noted.

Reason

To ensure the Committee receives regular reports in accordance with the functions of an effective audit committee.

- (b) Members identify any further items they wish to add to the Forward Plan.

Reason

To ensure the Committee can seek assurances on any aspect of the council's internal control environment in accordance with its roles and responsibilities.

- (c) Members agree to include an additional item on Governance changes on the February Agenda

Reason

To ensure the Committee receives relevant reports in accordance with the functions of an effective audit committee.

(d) Members are asked to consider whether they wish to hold an additional meeting to consider the final outcome of the Local Government Association review

Reason

To ensure the Committee receives relevant reports in accordance with the functions of an effective audit committee.

Contact Details

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**Report
Approved**



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Specialist Implications Officers

Head of Civic, Democratic & Legal Services

Wards Affected: Not applicable

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annex

Audit & Governance Committee Forward Plan to September 2015