

## APPENDIX – PROPOSED REVISIONS

### Audit Committee Terms of Reference *(Revised February 2012)*

- (1) To approve the Council's Statement of Accounts (which includes the Annual Governance Statement) in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 as amended.
- (2) To consider and accept the Annual Letter from the External Auditor ~~or the Audit Commission~~ in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 as amended and to monitor the Council's response to any issues of concern identified.

#### *Audit Activity*

- (3) To consider the Chief Internal Auditor's annual report and opinion, and a summary of internal audit activity (actual and proposed) and the level of assurance it can give over the Council's corporate governance arrangements.
- (4) To consider summaries of specific internal audit reports as requested.
- (5) To consider reports dealing with the management and performance of the internal audit service.
- (6) To consider any report from internal audit on agreed recommendations not implemented within a reasonable timescale.
- (7) To consider specific reports as agreed with the external auditor.
- (8) To comment on the scope and depth of external audit work and to ensure it gives value for money.
- (9) To liaise with the Public Sector Audit Appointments ~~the Audit Commission~~ or any relevant organisation over the appointment of the Council's external auditor and to decide upon the appointment process for the external auditor and to participate in the process, as and when required.

**Comment [RD(1):** Should this refer to implementation generally?

**Comment [RD(2):** Change to consider? How can we ensure vfm?

#### *Regulatory Framework and Risk Management*

- (10) To maintain an overview of the Council's Constitution in respect of contract procedure rules, financial regulations and codes of conduct

and behaviour (except in relation to those matters which are within the Terms of Reference of the Standards Committee e.g. code of conduct and behaviour of Members).

(11) To monitor the effective development and operation of risk management ~~and corporate governance~~ in the Council.

(12) To monitor Council policies on "~~Raising Concerns at Work~~" and the anti-fraud and anti-corruption strategy and the Council's complaints process.

(13) To oversee the production of the Council's Annual Governance Statement and monitor progress on any issues and consider compliance with other published standards and controls.

~~(13) To consider the Council's arrangements for corporate governance and any necessary actions to ensure compliance with best practice.~~

~~(14) To consider the Council's compliance with its own and other published standards and controls.~~

#### Accounts

~~(15)~~(14) To consider whether appropriate accounting policies have been followed and whether there are concerns arising from the financial statements or from the audit that need to be brought to the attention of the Council.