

AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2012/2013

To: Audit and Governance Committee

Date: 25 June 2013

Main Portfolio Area: Finance & Governance

Author of report: Ian Cumberworth, Internal Audit Manager

Classification: Non Exempt

Ward: All

SUMMARY

This report sets out the Annual Report of the activity of Audit & Governance Committee for 2012/2013.

LINK TO STRATEGIC COMPASS

The report fully supports the Council's commitment to Ensuring that we are well managed, proactive and deliver value for money services.

Report status

For decision

Route to Implementation/Timetable: Report is considered and approved by Audit & Governance Committee and referred to Full Council.

BACKGROUND/INTRODUCTION

1. The Audit & Governance Committee is required to obtain assurance on the control environment of the organisation; the attached report sets out how the Committee has sought to achieve this.
2. The internal control environment comprises the whole network of systems and controls established to manage the Council, to ensure that its objectives are met. It includes financial and other controls, and arrangements for ensuring that the Council is achieving value for money from its activities.
3. In accordance with best practice, the committee has produced an Annual Report to enable its work to be considered in the context of the Annual Governance statement for 2012-2013.

WHAT IS THE ISSUE THAT REQUIRES A DECISION AND WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE PEOPLE OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS?

4. To provide assurance that the Audit & Governance Committee has discharged its responsibilities to oversee the governance arrangements within the authority.

WHO HAVE WE CONSULTED AND HOW? (OR WHO WILL WE CONSULT FOLLOWING THE DECISION?)

5. The report has been discussed and agreed with members of the Audit & Governance Committee.

HOW WILL THE DECISION BE COMMUNICATED?

6. The Audit & Governance Committee will consider the report at the Audit & Governance Committee on 25 June and the Chair will present the report to Full Council in July 2013.

WHAT ALTERNATIVE ACTION COULD WE TAKE?

7. It is regarded as best practice to produce an annual report for the Audit & Governance Committee however the authority could choose not to produce an annual report.

CONCLUSIONS

8. Based on the coverage of the work undertaken by the Committee, it is concluded that it is working effectively and discharging its responsibilities properly

RECOMMENDATION – That the Audit & Governance Committee's Annual Report is agreed.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:

The Annual Audit & Governance Committee Report provides the Council with assurance that important governance and risk issues are being monitored and addressed by the Committee.

Contact Officer: Ian Cumberworth, Internal Audit Manager 01892 554020

Name of Director/Head of Service

Lee Colyer

Head of Finance & Governance

Background Papers

'None'

APPENDICES TO REPORT

Appendix A - Cross Cutting Issues

Appendix B - Audit Committee Annual Report 2012/2013

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