

**AUDIT BOARD**  
**22 JULY 2020**

**INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER (July 2020)**

1. Summary

1.1. The Audit Charter (Appendix A) sets out the purpose, authority and responsibility of the Internal Audit Service. The Charter includes those safeguards that are necessary to protect Internal Audit's objectivity and independence and provides an overview of governance arrangements.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the Internal Audit Charter (Appendix A) is approved.

3. Background and Discussion

3.1 As those charged with governance and oversight of the Internal Audit service, the Audit Board is required through its Terms of Reference to consider and approve the Charter.

The Internal Audit Charter is a requirement of the [Public Sector Internal Audit Standards](#) (PSIAS). It is a key governance document that sets out the purpose, authority, and responsibility of Internal Audit. In addition, the Charter reinforces the 'mission' of Internal Audit as a service that provides vital assurance, insight and improvement to the Council. The Audit Board last considered and approved the Internal Audit Charter in March 2019.

4. Internal Audit Resources

4.1 Effective governance of the Partnership is vital to ensure delivery of an effective audit service. The work undertaken by the Partnership is approved within the Council's budget and so there are no resource implications identified as part of this decision.

5. Relationship to the Corporate Plan

5.1 Not applicable

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6. Financial, legal, staffing and other administrative implications and risk assessments

Financial Implications	There are no financial implications associated with this decision.
Legal Implications	The Account and Audit Regulations 2015 require an organisation to “undertake an effective internal audit to evaluate the effectiveness of its risk management, control and governance processes, taking into account public sector internal auditing standards or guidance”. The Charter is a key governance document under these standards.
Staffing Implications	There are no staffing implications associated with this decision.
Administrative Implications	There are no administrative implications associated with this decision.
Risk Assessment	If a Charter is not maintained and approved, there is a risk that the remit and authority of Internal Audit within the organisation becomes unclear, meaning that it is unable to deliver an effective service.

7. Details of Exempt Information Category

7.1 Not applicable

8. Appendices

Appendix A – Internal Audit Charter – July 2020

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

<u>Documents consulted</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Report Author</u>	<u>Section &amp; Directorate</u>	<u>Exempt Information Category</u>
The previous Charter was reported to the Audit Board in March 2019 and is publically available on the Council's <a href="#">website</a> .	27/3/19	Interim Audit Manager 01322 343116	Internal Audit Partnership & Strategic Director (Internal Services)	N/A