

Report from Chair of Audit and Risk Committee meeting 19h April 2017

At the meeting, the following reports were presented/reviewed:

- Risk Management strategy 2016-7 detailing the areas that will be reviewed next year
- Certification Work report 2015/6. This was presented by the external auditors, Grant Thornton and related to the housing benefit claim form. Some minor errors were noted but these were not material to the overall claim
- Audit Plan 2016/17. This report was presented by Grant Thornton. Members were advised that the materiality level was calculated at £1.2M. It also detailed the areas that the External Auditors would review
- Code of corporate Governance – this is an annual report for the committee to approve. This was in a new format and a letter would be sent to all members signed by the Chair and Vice Chair reminding them that the code is available on the Members area on the intranet site.
- Counter Fraud Arrangements- this was a report that noted the work being done on anti fraud and the anti corruption framework, the fraud response plan, the whistleblowing policy and the anti money laundering policy. All of this is in partnership with other councils and government bodies to reduce and detect fraud.
- External Quality assessment of NULBC Internal Audit Service- This was a review undertaken by CIPFA. The final report was delivered to the committee and it was noted that the Internal Audit section 'generally' conforms to the requirements of the public sector Audit Standards. Congratulations to the Audit team as the interview process for those involved was quite gruelling.

Cllr Sarah Pickup

Chair of Audit and Standards

May 2017