

## **Internal Audit – Revised Internal Audit Charter**

**Contact Officer:** Muir Laurie  
**Telephone:** 01895 556132

### **REASON FOR ITEM**

The Internal Audit (IA) Charter, which under the previous guidance was known as the IA Terms of Reference, sets out the purpose, authority, responsibility and position of the IA Service within the London Borough of Hillingdon. As such it is a key document in respect to the Council's internal control, risk management and corporate governance framework. The IA Charter was last agreed by the Council's Corporate Management Team and Audit Committee in June 2013. However, the IA Charter has now been further updated to provide clearer compliance with the UK Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS), which came into effect on 1 April 2013. Attached to this report is the June 2013 IA Terms of Reference (for comparative purposes).

Whilst the main changes to the IA Charter are presentational, it has also been updated to include several new sections including Fraud and Corruption as well as Quality Assurance. These are areas specifically referred to in the PSIAS and therefore the revisions result in the IA Charter now being more closely aligned with the PSIAS. The IA Charter will continue to be reviewed annually and be approved by the Council's Corporate Management Team and Audit Committee to ensure that it remains relevant to the needs of the Council.

### **OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COMMITTEE**

**The Audit Committee is asked to review and approve the revised IA Charter.**

### **INFORMATION**

The IA Charter sets out how the IA service complies with the PSIAS across the following 14 key areas:

1. Purpose
2. Statutory Requirement
3. Responsibilities and Objectives
4. Status of IA within the Council
5. Authority and Rights of Access to Obtain Information
6. Scope of IA
7. Fraud and Corruption
8. Professional Standards
9. The IA Plan
10. Management of Internal Audit Engagements and Follow-up
11. Staff Training and Development
12. Proficiency and Due Professional Care
13. Reporting
14. Quality Assurance

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.