

Business Assurance – Revised Internal Audit Charter

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REASON FOR ITEM

The Internal Audit (IA) Charter 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 March 2015. 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 1st April 2013.

Whilst the main changes to the IA Charter are presentational, it has also been updated to include a new section on the wider remit of Business Assurance (ref. para 8.1). This area is specifically referred to in the PSIAS and therefore the revision results in the IA Charter now being more closely aligned with the PSIAS. The IA Charter will continue to be reviewed periodically 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 IA complies with the PSIAS across the following key areas:

1. Purpose
2. Statutory Requirement & Authority
3. Status of IA within the Council
4. Objectives & Mission
5. Scope of IA
6. Responsibility
7. Reporting Lines
8. Other IA Work
9. Ethics
10. Quality Assurance

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The IA Terms of Reference March 2015 (attached).