

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Council	
MEETING DATE:	11 th September 2014	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
TITLE:	Annual Report – Corporate Audit Committee	
WARD:	ALL	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
Appendix 1 – Annual Report		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The Corporate Audit Committee has specific delegated powers given to it from Full Council and as such is required to report back annually to Council under its Terms of Reference.
- 1.2 This is the Annual Report of the Committee which details its work over the last year.

2 RECOMMENDATION

Council is asked to agree that:

- 2.1 The Annual Report of the Corporate Audit Committee is noted

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications relevant to this report

4 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 4.1 Completion of the Corporate Audit Committee's work assists the organisation in efficiently and effectively contributing to the Council's priorities.

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 Appendix 1 details the ninth annual report of the Corporate Audit Committee since it was established by the Council on 12 May 2005. It reviews the work done by the Committee over the past 12 months, its future work plan, membership and support of the Committee.
- 5.2 The Committee's work has continued to develop as detailed at Appendix 1 and as part of its responsibilities it has reviewed its terms of reference and the key areas of responsibility are still considered appropriate and meet current best practice.
- 5.3 This was the first full year for the Council's new external auditor – Grant Thornton – who had been successful in winning a new five year contract as a result of the government's changes to the public audit regime. The draft local Audit Bill was scrutinised before parliament during the year and finally enacted and as it provides for options on a differing approach to the future appointment and monitoring of external auditors its implications will remain an area of high priority for the Audit Committee.
- 5.4 The Audit Committee will therefore continue to monitor the implications of the changes to the public audit regime and the performance of the new external auditor.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 A proportionate risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.
- 6.2 The Corporate Audit Committee has specific responsibility for ensuring the Council's Risk Management and Financial Governance framework is robust and effective.

7 EQUALITIES

- 7.1 A proportionate equalities impact assessment has been carried out using corporate guidelines and no significant issues have been identified.

8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The report was distributed to the Chief Executive, Council's Monitoring Officer, S151 Officer and Chair of the Audit Committee for consultation.

9 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

- 9.1 No specific issues to consider.

10 ADVICE SOUGHT

10.1 The Council's Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer (Council Solicitor) and Section 151 Officer have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

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Background papers	<i>None</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	