

Audit and Governance Committee

Purpose

The Audit and Governance Committee provides independent oversight of the adequacy of the council's governance, risk management and internal control framework, and oversees the financial reporting process.

Membership

The members of the Audit Committee shall comprise nine councillors.

Terms of Reference

Governance

1. To monitor the operation of the council's corporate governance, risk management and internal control arrangements.
2. To monitor the effectiveness of the council's strategies to counter fraud and corruption.
3. To monitor compliance with the council's local corporate governance code.
4. To promote and maintain high standards of conduct by councillors and co-opted members, to ensure that the highest ethical standards are maintained across all areas of the council's services.
5. To review and approve the council's annual governance statement.
6. To conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of the system of internal audit.

Audit

7. To approve, but not direct, the annual internal audit plan.
8. To consider periodic reports of internal audit activity and outcomes.
9. To consider the head of internal audit's annual report and opinion.
10. To consider the external auditor's annual plan.
11. To consider periodic reports on external auditor's work.
12. To consider the external auditor's annual audit letter.

Financial statements

13. To consider and approve the audited financial statements of the county council and its group subsidiaries and associates.
14. To consider and approve the audited financial statements of Lancashire County Pension Fund.

Treasury management

15. To review the council's treasury management strategy and policies.
16. To consider periodic reports of treasury management activity.

Meetings

17. The Audit Committee will meet at least four times a year