



REPORT TO:	Audit & Governance Committee
DATE:	8 th July 2024
SUBJECT:	Audit & Governance Committee Self-Assessment Action Plan
PURPOSE:	Evaluating the impact and effectiveness of the Audit & Governance Committee
KEY DECISION:	No
REPORT OF:	Audit & Governance Committee Members
REPORT AUTHOR:	Rebecca James, Scrutiny & Policy Officer
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	None
EXEMPT REPORT?	No

SUMMARY

The Audit & Governance Self-Assessment Action Plan details the outcomes of the committees evaluation of its own impact and effectiveness. The actions support the Council's commitment to achieve good governance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee reviews the Self-Assessment Action Plan and agrees to work towards the actions during 24/25.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To support effective audit and governance arrangements within the Council.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The purpose of the Self-Assessment Action Plan (**Appendix A**) is to support the committee in ensuring continuous effective audit and governance practice for the committee and across the Council.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 This self-assessment was undertaken to follow CIPFA best practice that “The committee should evaluate its impact and identify areas for improvement” (**Appendix C, page 5**).
- 2.2 Specific responsibilities for the Committee include maintenance of governance, risk and control arrangements; financial and governance reporting; and establishing appropriate and effective arrangements for audit and assurance.
- 2.3 The self-assessment session consisted primarily of an anonymous questionnaire, designed for members to reflect on their operation openly, honestly and to review and feedback. The results of the questionnaire can be found at **Appendix B**.
- 2.4 The results of the questionnaire were then used by the committee to draw conclusions on their effectiveness and the discussions that followed led to the creation of the action plan (**Appendix A**).

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 The findings from the self-assessment session were used to produce the action plan (**Appendix A**), which will help the committee focus on areas of improvement and ensure oversight of governance and audit issues at committee meetings.

EXPECTED BENEFITS TO THE PARTNERSHIP

Continuous training and development will ensure effective governance and audit arrangements to support the work of the Partnership.

IMPLICATIONS

SOUTH AND EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS PARTNERSHIP

None

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Effective governance and audit arrangements are an essential element of the delivery of all corporate priorities.

STAFFING

None

WORKFORCE CAPACITY IMPLICATIONS

None

CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None

DATA PROTECTION

None

FINANCIAL

Effective governance and audit arrangements ensure that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently, and effectively.

RISK MANAGEMENT

None

STAKEHOLDER / CONSULTATION / TIMESCALES

None

REPUTATION

None

CONTRACTS

None

CRIME AND DISORDER

None

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY/ HUMAN RIGHTS/ SAFEGUARDING

None

HEALTH AND WELL BEING

None

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None

LINKS TO 12 MISSIONS IN THE LEVELLING UP WHITE PAPER

none

ACRONYMS

CIPFA - The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

APPENDICES	
Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report: -	
APPENDIX A	Audit & Governance Self-Assessment Action Plan
APPENDIX B	Self-Assessment Questionnaire Results
APPENDIX C	CIPFA audit committee position statement

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT

A report on this item has not been previously considered by a Council body.

REPORT APPROVAL

Report author:

Rebecca James, Scrutiny & Policy Officer

Signed off by:

Councillor Barrie Pierpoint, Chair of Audit & Governance