

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

24 June 2015

**Subject Heading:**

Forward Plan for the Audit  
Committee 2015/2016

**CMT Lead:**

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**Policy context:**

To agree a draft forward plan for the Audit  
Committee.

**Financial summary:**

N/A

### The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Havering will be clean and its environment will be cared for	X
People will be safe, in their homes and in the community	X
Residents will be proud to live in Havering	X

### SUMMARY

The Forward Plan (appendix A) provides a summary of the expected agenda items at each of the next five planned Audit Committee Meetings.

Training relevant to the agenda and based on priority is identified for each Meeting.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To comment on the forward plan within the report.
2. To approve the forward plan, subject to any comments made.



## **REPORT DETAIL**

1. The Audit Committee has been in place for a number of years. The Committee's terms of reference list the responsibilities and authorities delegated in the Council's Constitution, which comprise:
  - To consider and monitor the Authority's risk management and internal control environment;
  - To focus audit resources;
  - To receive and approve the Annual Statement of Accounts;
  - To monitor performance of internal and external audit; and
  - To monitor proactive fraud and corruption arrangements.
2. The Audit Committee is currently planned to meet on four occasions during the current financial year. An additional meeting was requested as a result of the Annual Review of the Audit Committee's Effectiveness as it was deemed that the agendas were getting unmanageable and the meetings were too far apart. This additional meeting will take place in May 2016. There are specific reports planned throughout the year, running through a mix of quarterly progress reports and annual reviews of specific strategies and policies within the remit of the Committee, together with reports from the Council's external auditor. The Audit Committee will often also add an item to there agenda relating to follow up of a specific issue.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

### **Financial implications and risks:**

None arising directly from this report. The existence of an effective Audit Committee is fundamental in ensuring the Council maintains a robust system of internal control. Failure of the Audit Committee to undertake its duties in an effective manner may result in issues that arise not being addressed. Agendas not being well planned could hinder the effectiveness of the Committee.

### **Legal implications and risks:**

None arising directly from this report.

### **Human Resources implications and risks:**

None arising directly from this report.

### **Equalities implications and risks:**



None arising directly from this report.

<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>
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None.