

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2011**

1. **INTERNAL AUDIT – TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Report of the Audit Manager [Sandwell MBC].

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Terms of Reference for Internal Audit be reviewed.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT.**

2.1 To ask the Committee to review the Terms of Reference for Internal Audit.

3. **BACKGROUND**

3.1 The CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government in the United Kingdom 2006 states that the purpose, authority and responsibility of Internal Audit must be formally defined by the organisation in terms of reference consistent with the code.

3.2 The terms of reference have been prepared in line with the example given in the CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government in the United Kingdom 2006. They were approved by the Audit Committee at their first meeting on 28 January 2008. It is recommended good practice that they are subject to annual review. The first such review took place on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2009 and the second on 11 January 2010. There have been no changes to the terms of reference since this review.

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out. The matters contained in this report will not lead to and/or do not relate to a policy change.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Accounts and Audit Regulations Act states that a relevant body must “maintain an adequate and effective system of internal audit of its accounting records and of its system of internal control in accordance with the proper internal audit practices”.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Implementation of the recommendation will be undertaken within existing resources.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

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