

**5 March 2025**

**Agenda Item: 6**

## **REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE & IMPROVEMENT**

### **INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER REFRESH**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To review and approve an updated version of the Internal Audit Charter in line with Global Internal Audit Standards (GIAS).

#### **Information**

2. The charter is a formal document defining the Internal Audit Section's purpose, authority and responsibility. It establishes the Section's position within the Council, including the nature of the Chief Internal Auditor's functional reporting relationship with the Governance & Ethics Committee. It authorises access to records, personnel and physical properties relevant to the performance of audit engagements, and it defines the scope of Internal Audit's activities. The approval of the charter rests with the Governance & Ethics Committee.
3. The charter is reviewed periodically to ensure it remains relevant and up to date. It was last updated in January 2024. This revision to the charter has been refreshed to capture the changes required through the:-
  - GIAS - (new standards for implementation 1/4/2025)
  - Internal Audit Standards Advisory Board (IASAB) – UK Public Sector – Application Note
  - CIPFA – Code of Practice for the Governance of Internal Audit in UK Local Government.
4. The revised charter is attached at Appendix 1. It may also provide further assistance to the members of the Governance & Ethics Committee in understanding the role of Internal Audit in the Council.

#### **Other Options Considered**

5. The establishment and maintenance of a formal internal audit charter is a requirement of the GIAS, IASAB - UK Public Sector – Application Note and CIPFA – Code of Conduct.

## **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

6. To ensure that this Council's Internal Audit Charter remains up-to-date, compliant with professional standards and relevant to the developing needs of the authority from its internal audit service.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Financial Implications**

8. The activities of the Internal Audit service are a key element in the governance framework within the Council. The formal Internal Audit Charter is a key document in ensuring the Council receives an effective service from the resources it deploys on this area of activity.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That the revised Internal Audit Charter be approved.

**Nigel Stevenson**

**Service Director for Finance, Infrastructure & Improvement**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

**Simon Lacey, Chief Internal Auditor**

### **Constitutional Comments (SR – 23/01/2025)**

9. Pursuant to the Nottinghamshire County Council Constitution this committee has the delegated authority to receive this report and make a decision contained within it.

### **Financial Comments (SES 15/01/2025)**

10. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

11. Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All