Audit & Governance Committee Self Assessment 2012/13

Terms of Reference Have the Committee's terms of reference been approved by the full Council and do they follow the CIPFA model.	Yes
Internal Audit Process Does the Committee approve the strategic audit approach and the annual programme	Yes
Is the work of Internal Audit reviewed regularly	Yes
Are summaries of quality questionnaires from managers reviewed	To be presented to the next meeting
Is the annual report from the Head of Internal Audit presented to the Committee	Yes
Does the Committee ensure that officers are acting on and monitoring action taken to implement recommendations	Yes
External Audit Process	
Are reports on the work of External Audit and other inspection agencies presented to the committee	Yes
Does the Committee input into the external audit programme	Yes
Regulatory Framework	

	
Does the Committee take a role in overseeing	
Risk management strategies	Yes
Annual Governance Statement	Yes
Anti-fraud arrangements	Yes
Confidential reporting policy	Yes
Financial regulations	Yes
Constitution	Yes
Complaints handling/ombudsman's report	Yes
Accounts	
Does the Committee take a role in overseeing the annual statement of accounts	Yes
Membership	
Has the membership of the committee been formally agreed and a forum set	Yes
Is the chair free from executive or scrutiny functions	Both the Chair and Vice Chair are ordinary members of a Scrutiny Committee
Are members sufficiently independent of the other key committees of the council	Yes
Have all members' skills and experiences been assessed and training given for identifying gaps	Yes – ongoing
Can the committee access other committees as necessary	Yes

Meetings	
Does the committee meet regularly	Yes
Are separate, private meetings held with the external auditor and internal auditor	Available on request
	Yes
Are meetings free and open without political influence being displayed	
Are decisions reached promptly	Yes
Are agenda papers circulated in advance of meetings to allow adequate preparation by members	Yes
Does the committee have the benefit of attendance of appropriate officers at its meetings	Yes
Can special meetings be organised to allow a quick response to emergencies	Yes
Does External Audit regularly attend meetings and update members on their progress/external audit issues	Yes
Training	
Is induction training provided to members	Yes
Is more advanced training available as required	Yes
Is the committee made of members with a different mix of skills and experience	Yes

Administration	
Does the authority's s151 officer or deputy attend meetings	Yes
Are key officers available to support the committee	Yes
Do reports to the Committee communicate relevant information at the right frequency and in a format that is effective	Yes