

Audit Committee Meeting		Agenda Item 6
Meeting Date	30 September 2020	
Report Title	Audit Committee Annual Report 2019/20	
Cabinet Member	Councillor Roger Truelove – Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance	
SMT Lead	Nick Vickers – Chief Finance Officer	
Head of Service	Rich Clarke – Head of Audit Partnership	
Lead Officer	Russell Heppleston – Deputy Head of Audit Partnership	
Key Decision	No	
Classification	Open	
Recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Audit Committee Annual Report for 2019/20 (appendix I) is agreed. 2. That the Chairman of the Audit Committee presents the report to a meeting of the Full Council to demonstrate how the Committee has discharged its duties. 	

1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 The report details how the Audit Committee has fulfilled its duties effectively during 2019/20. This report provides assurance to the Council that the Committee has monitored and addressed issues of governance, risk management and internal control throughout the year. This report seeks to provide additional assurance to support the Annual Governance Statement.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Audit Committee is required to monitor audit activity (internal and external), review and comment on the effectiveness of the Council's regulatory framework and review and approve the Council's annual statements of accounts. This report sets out how this has been achieved during 2019/20.

3 Proposal

- 3.1 To agree the Audit Committee Annual Report as attached in Appendix I.
- 3.2 That the Chairman of the Audit Committee presents the report to a meeting of the Full Council setting out how the Committee has discharged its duties.

4 Alternative Options

- 4.1 The production and presentation of an annual report is required by this Committee's terms of reference. Therefore, no other alternative could be recommended.

5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

- 5.1 The draft report was sent to the Chairman of the Audit Committee for consultation prior to submission for this meeting.

6 Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	None identified at this stage.
Financial, Resource and Property	The role of the Audit Committee includes the review of the financial reports for the Council, including the approval of the Annual Statement of Accounts.
Legal and Statutory	None identified at this stage.
Crime & Disorder	None identified at this stage.
Environmental Sustainability	None identified at this stage.
Health/Wellbeing	None identified at this stage.
Risk Management and Health and Safety	The role of the Audit Committee requires it to consider the effectiveness of the Council's risk management arrangements.
Equality/Diversity	None identified at this stage.
Privacy and Data Protection	None identified at this stage.

7 Appendices

- 7.1 The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report:
- Appendix I: Swale Annual Audit Committee Report 2019/20

8 Background Papers

- 8.1 None