

AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

10th October 2019

Work Plan for 2019/20

Purpose of Report

This report presents the SCR Audit and Standards Committee work plan for 2019/20.

Freedom of Information & Section 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

Under the Freedom of Information Act this paper and any appendices will be made available under the Mayoral Combined Authority Publication Scheme. This scheme commits the Authority to make information about how decisions are made available to the public as part of its normal business activities.

Recommendations

Members consider:

- the revised work plan for 2019/20 and agree any additional items to be scheduled
- the proposal for providing Member training
- the proposal to amend the date of the July 2020 meeting

1. Introduction

1.1 The Audit and Standards Committee work plan for 2019/20, is required to facilitate the Committee in meeting its accountabilities.

1.2 This work plan is revised quarterly to ensure it remains on schedule.

2. Proposal

2.1 Work Plan

The proposed work plan is attached at appendix A. This document aims to ensure the Audit and Standards Committee are appropriately sighted on key governance issues and activities in a timely manner and ensure that items relevant to their statutory accountabilities are appropriately scheduled.

2.2 Since the workplan was presented to the Committee in July the following items have been deferred.

- Devolution (threats & opportunities e.g. AEB)
- New Guidance

2.3 Training

Members have requested training sessions on key areas of Audit & Standards Committee responsibility. It is proposed that the first item of each meeting is dedicated to knowledge development and members are asked to advise on appropriate topics. In addition to this, it is proposed that the following sessions are scheduled:

Early December – Treasury Management (ahead of the mid-year Treasury Management Report and Treasury Management Strategy being presented to the 23rd January 2020 meeting)

Early April – Scrutinising the Accounts (ahead of the first set of draft accounts being presented to the 11th June 2020 meeting)

2.4 Revised date for July meeting

A paper was presented to the June meeting proposing meeting dates through to July 2020. The paper identified 9th July for the meeting to review the final accounts and make a recommendation to the MCA (scheduled for 27th July). To ensure the sequencing of SCR's & PTE accounts sign off is efficient this year, it is proposed that the MCA Audit & Standards Committee is re-scheduled from the 9th July to the 16th. The sequence would then work as follows:

External Audit field work – until the end of June

PTE Audit & Risk Committee – 9th July

SCR Audit & Standards Committee – 16th July (there is a LEP Board taking place this day 11am-2pm therefore the Audit & Standards Committee would have to take place 3-5pm)

SCR MCA Papers published - 17th July

SCR MCA meeting to sign off the accounts – 27th July

Members are asked to agree this change.

3. Consideration of alternative approaches

3.1 A work plan is required to ensure the Audit and Standards Committee is able to meet its accountabilities.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial

None.

4.2 Legal

None.

4.3 Risk Management

Failure to consider this annual work plan could result in ineffective controls of the SCR MCA / LEP.

4.4 Equality, Diversity and Social Inclusion

There are no equality, diversity or social inclusion implications.

5. Communications

5.1 None.

6. Appendices/Annexes

6.1 Appendix A – Work Plan

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Background papers used in the preparation of this report are available for inspection at: 11 Broad Street West, Sheffield S1 2BQ

Other sources and references: n/a