

London Borough of Haringey - Skills Matrix for Corporate Committee Members

Area	Details of core knowledge required	Application of knowledge	Self-assessment score 1= Very Low awareness 2= Low awareness 3= Medium awareness 4 = High awareness 5 = Very High awareness	Comment
Organisational knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of the governance structures of the authority and decision-making processes • Knowledge of the organisational objectives and major functions of the authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This knowledge will be core to most activities of the audit committee including review of the AGS, internal and external audit reports and risk registers 		
Audit committee role and functions (part of Corporate Committee)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding of the audit committee's role and place within the governance structures. Familiarity with the committee's terms of reference and accountability arrangements • Knowledge of the purpose and role of the audit committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This knowledge will enable the audit committee to prioritise its work in order to ensure it discharges its responsibilities under its terms of reference and to avoid overlapping the work of others 		

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Corporate Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of the seven principles of the CIPFA/Solace Framework and the requirements of the AGS • Knowledge of the local code of governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee will review the local code of governance and consider how governance arrangements align to the principles in the framework • The committee will plan the assurances it is to receive in order to adequately support the AGS • The committee will review the AGS and consider how the authority is meeting the principles of good governance. 		
Internal audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An awareness of the key principles of the PSIAS (Public Sector Internal Audit Standards) • Knowledge of the arrangements for delivery of the internal audit service in the authority and how the role of the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The audit committee has oversight of the internal audit function and will monitor its adherence to professional internal audit standards • The audit committee will review the assurances from internal audit work 		

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	head of internal audit is fulfilled	and will review the risk-based audit plan. The committee will also receive the annual report, including an opinion and information on conformance with professional standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relying on the work of internal audit, the committee will need to be confident that professional standards are being followed • The corporate committee chair will be interviewed as part of the external quality assessment and the committee will receive the outcome of the assessment and action plan 		
Financial management and accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of the financial statements that a local authority must produce and the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the financial statements prior to publication, asking questions 		

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	<p>principles it must follow to produce them</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of good financial management principles • Knowledge of how the organisation meets the requirements of the role of the CFO, as required by The Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government (CIPFA, 2016) and the CIPFA Statement on the Role of Chief Financial Officers in Policing (2018) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receiving the external audit report and opinion on the financial audit • Reviewing both external and internal audit recommendations relating to financial management and controls • The audit committee should consider the role of the CFO and how this is met when reviewing the AGS 		
External audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of the role and functions of the external auditor and who currently undertakes this role • Knowledge of the key reports and assurances that external audit will provide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The audit committee should meet with the external auditor regularly and receive their reports and opinions • Monitoring external audit recommendations and maximising benefit from audit process 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge about arrangements for the appointment of auditors and quality monitoring undertaken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The audit committee should monitor the relationship between the external auditor and the authority and support the delivery of an effective service 		
Risk management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of the principles of risk management, including linkage to good governance and decision making • Knowledge of the risk management policy and strategy of the organisation • Understanding of risk governance arrangements, including the role of members and of the audit committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In reviewing the AGS, the committee will consider the robustness of the authority's risk management arrangements and should also have awareness of the major risks the authority faces • Keeping up to date with the risk profile is necessary to support the review of a number of audit committee agenda items, including the risk-based internal audit plan, external audit plans and the explanatory foreword of the accounts. Typically, risk registers 		

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		<p>will be used to inform the committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The committee should also review reports and action plans to develop the application of risk management practice 		
Counter fraud	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An understanding of the main areas of fraud and corruption risk to which the organisation is exposed Knowledge of the principles of good fraud risk management practice in accordance with the Code of Practice on Managing the Risk of Fraud and Corruption (CIPFA, 2014) Knowledge of the organisation’s arrangements for tackling fraud 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of fraud risks and good fraud risk management practice will be helpful when the committee reviews the organisation’s fraud strategy and receives reports on the effectiveness of that strategy An assessment of arrangements should support the AGS and knowledge of good fraud risk management practice will support the audit committee member in reviewing that assessment 		

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Values of good governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of the Seven Principles of Public Life • Knowledge of the authority’s key arrangements to uphold ethical standards for both members and staff • Knowledge of the whistleblowing arrangements in the authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The audit committee member will draw on this knowledge when reviewing governance issues and the AGS • Oversight of the effectiveness of whistleblowing will be considered as part of the AGS. The audit committee member should know to whom concerns should be reported 		
Treasury management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective Scrutiny of Treasury Management is an assessment tool for reviewing the arrangements for undertaking scrutiny of treasury management. The key knowledge areas identified are: regulatory requirements • treasury risks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core knowledge on treasury management is essential for the committee undertaking the role of scrutiny 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the organisation's treasury management strategy the organisation's policies and procedures in relation to treasury management 			
Financial Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An understanding of financial strategy and the financial reporting requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oversight of the Council's financial statements, the basis upon which the accounts have been prepared to allow members to engage in financial management of the Council. 		

Please send return to minesh.jani@haringey.gov.uk (Head of Audit and Risk Management)

Name of Corporate Committee member _____

Date Skills Matrix Complete _____