



Audit and Standards Committee annual report 2020/2021

Committee Audit and Standards

Date of meeting 4 June 2021

Date of report 18 May 2021

Report by Assistant Chief Executive

1. Object of report

To provide an annual report on the work of the Audit and Standards committee in 2020/2021, and recommend if appropriate that the Report should be considered by the Partnership at the meeting in June 2021.

2. Background

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA) has published practical guidance on audit committees. This standard setter guidance states:

'the (audit) committee should report regularly on its work to those charged with governance, and at least annually report an assessment of their performance'.

3. Outline of findings

The Audit and Standards committee met on four (4) occasions in the 2020/2021 (12 June 2020, 28 August 2020, 27 November 2020 and 19 February 2021).

A total of fifty-seven (57) reports were presented to and considered by the Audit and Standards committee at these meetings.

The core functions of the audit committee and reports presented were categorised as:

Assurance frameworks and assurance planning: including the assurance framework update.

Countering fraud and corruption: including the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) outcomes.

External Audit: reports included the 2019/2020 annual audit report to members of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, the Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme Joint Committee and the Controller of Audit, and the External Audit plan 2020/2021.

Financial reporting: reports included the 2019/2020 draft and final abstract of accounts for Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and the Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme.

Good governance and the annual governance statement: reports included the Audit and Standards committee work plan, Audit Scotland reports, the annual governance statement (AGS) and the local code of corporate governance update.

Governance and Ethical values: reports included minutes of meetings, public reporting of complaints statistics and members and directors expenses at each meeting.

Internal Audit: reports included an annual opinion and report for 2019/2020, assurance engagement reports, a mid-year progress report, and follow-up performance reports during 2020/2021 and the Internal Audit plan 2021/2022.

Risk Management: reports included Corporate Risk register updates as at the date of each meeting in 2020/2021 and cyber resilience framework update reports.

A separate work plan for 2021/2022 Audit and Standards committee business was noted at the meeting of 19 February 2021. To assist members the Audit and Standards work plan for 2021/2022, is provided to the committee (see Appendix 1).

Note: the work plan can be supplemented with additional reports from assurance providers in accordance with the Audit and Standards Committee Terms of Reference.

4. Committee action

The committee is asked to:

- (i) note the Audit and Standards committee annual report 2020/2021;
- (ii) commend this report to the next Partnership meeting of 18 June 2021.

5. Consequences

Policy consequences	<i>In accordance with the Audit and Standards Committee Terms of Reference.</i>
Legal consequences	<i>None.</i>
Financial consequences	<i>None.</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>None.</i>
Equalities consequences	<i>None.</i>
Risk consequences	<i>None.</i>

Name Valerie Davidson

Name Gordon MacLennan

Title Assistant Chief Executive

Title Chief Executive

For further information, please contact Valerie Davidson, Assistant Chief Executive on 0141 333 3298.

Audit and Standards work plan 2021/2022

Date of meeting	Assurance provider report source			Other planned reports
	Finance	Internal Audit	External Audit	
4 June 2021	Draft 2020/2021 Abstract of Accounts for Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme	Assurance engagement reports	None scheduled	Corporate Risk Register update
		Engagement follow-up performance reports		Audit Scotland report(s)
		Annual Internal Audit opinion and report 2020/2021		Audit & Standards committee annual report 2020/2021
		NFI outcomes 2020/2021		Members and Directors expenses 2021/2022
27 August 2021	Final draft 2020/2021 Abstract of Accounts for Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme	Assurance engagement reports	2020/2021 Annual Audit report to members of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, the Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme Joint Committee and Controller of Audit	Corporate Risk Register update
		Engagement follow-up performance reports		Cyber resilience framework update
				Audit Scotland report(s)
				Members and Directors expenses 2021/2022
26 November 2021	None scheduled	Assurance engagement reports	None scheduled	Corporate Risk Register update
		Engagement follow-up performance reports		Audit Scotland report(s)
		Internal Audit plan 2021/2022 Mid-year progress report		Members and Directors expenses 2021/2022
18 February 2022 (provisional)	None scheduled	Assurance framework update	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, the Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme Joint Committee External Audit plan 2021/2022	Corporate Risk Register update
		Local Code of Corporate Governance update		Audit Scotland report(s)
		Internal Audit plan 2022/2023		Audit & Standards committee work plan 2022/2023
		Assurance engagement reports		Members and Directors expenses 2021/2022
		Engagement follow-up performance reports		