

**Terms of Reference
Standards and Audit Committee**

Standards

1. To oversee the discharge of the Authority's duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Members and Co-opted Members.
2. To promote training and advice to Members and Co-opted Members on the Code of Conduct, relevant protocols adopted by the Authority, and related matters to enable high standards of conduct to be maintained.
3. To advise the Authority on the revision or replacement of its Code of Conduct for Members and Co-opted Members, and on the review of protocols relevant to ethical standards.
4. To advise the Authority on the arrangements to be applied for the investigation and determination of allegations of failure to comply with the Code of Conduct for Members and Co-opted Members, including advice on the involvement of at least one independent person in those arrangements, and to handle and determine such allegations in accordance with the approved procedures.
5. To consider and determine an application by a Member or Co-opted Member for the grant of a dispensation under Section 33 Localism Act 2011, relieving the restrictions on participation in, and voting on, a matter in which the Member or Co-opted Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Audit

6. To provide assurance on the adequacy of internal audit arrangements.
7. To ensure the robustness of risk management and internal audit arrangements.
8. To consider the adequacy of arrangements for the prevention and detection of fraud and corruption.
9. To agree the internal audit plan and annual report, and receive progress and other relevant internal audit reports.
10. To agree the District Auditor's Annual Audit and Inspection Plan, and receive the District Auditor's Annual Governance Statement and other relevant reports.
11. To review the Authority's Annual Governance Statement.
12. To approve the Statement of Accounts in accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011.

June 2012