

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Corporate Governance Committee 16 September 2010

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EXTERNAL AUDIT PERFORMANCE QUESTIONNAIRE

Purpose

1. To invite the Committee to consider sending the External Audit Questionnaire attached at appendix A to all 57 District Councillors.
2. This is not a key decision because, if agreed, it is a decision to send an internal document to all Members and so does not meet the criteria for a key decision.

Recommendations and Reasons

3. That the Corporate Governance Committee send out the attached questionnaire to all Councillors to assist the process by which the Council monitors the effectiveness of the external audit process.

Background

4. At the Corporate Governance Committee the Portfolio Holder responsible for Improvement suggested that the work of the Council's external audit be formally assessed. This report is in response of this.

Considerations

5. The Committee may wish to consider alternative ways of assessing the effectiveness of External Audit.

Options

6. To agree with the recommendation to send out the questionnaire to all members or agree an alternative way of assessing the effectiveness of external audit.

Implications

7.

Financial	Minimal cost if questionnaire is posted.
Legal	None
Staffing	None
Risk Management	None
Equal Opportunities	None
Climate Change	None

Consultations

8. No consultations.

Effect on Strategic Aims

9. Ensuring that the work of External Audit is properly assessed will help to ensure that through effective auditing the authority “demonstrates value for money in the way it works”.

Conclusions / Summary

10. The Committee is invited to send out the attached questionnaire to all members or consider alternative ways of assessing the effectiveness of external audit.

Background Papers: the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

None

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