

## **Report of the Head of Internal Audit – WIASS**

### **Internal Audit Strategy, Charter and Mandate**

#### **Purpose of report**

1. To meet the requirements of the new Global Internal Audit Standards by presenting, for approval, an Internal Audit Strategy, and updated Charter, including a mandate.

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#### **Recommendation**

***The Treasurer recommends that the Internal Audit Strategy, Charter and Mandate be approved.***

#### **Introduction and Background**

2. The Global Internal Audit Standards represent a single, principles based framework for all internal audit professionals. They define the purpose of internal audit, set out requirements in relation to ethics and professionalism, governance and management of the internal audit function, as well as setting out how internal audit work should be performed.
3. The Standards are mandatory and are designed to improve the quality of audit functions globally.

#### **Report**

4. New Global Internal Auditing Standards are in force. These new Standards require the internal audit service to formally adopt a Strategy setting out its vision, strategic objectives and initiatives. Appendix 1 sets out the proposed Strategy for the period 2026 to 2028.
5. The opportunity has also been taken to update the existing Internal Audit Charter to ensure alignment with the new Standards. The main change has been to incorporate a formal mandate, and the updated Charter is set out at Appendix 2.

#### **Conclusion**

6. Formal approval and adoption of an Internal Audit Strategy, Charter and Mandate is good practice and will demonstrate compliance with Global Internal Auditing standards. The documents also provide Members with information and assurance around the governance of the internal audit service.

## Corporate Considerations

<b>Resource Implications</b> (identify any financial, legal, property or human resources issues)	There are no financial issues that require consideration.
<b>Strategic Policy Links &amp; Core Code of Ethics</b> (Identify how proposals link with current priorities & policy framework and align to the Core Code of Ethics)	The documents are consistent with the requirements of the Authority's Core Code of Ethics.
<b>Productivity &amp; Efficiency</b> (Identify how proposal improves productivity or efficiency)	The documents set out how the Internal Audit service is governed and managed, as well as its strategic priorities. Adoption will enable the service to continue its focus on improving productivity and efficiency.
<b>Risk Management / Health &amp; Safety</b> (identify any risks, the proposed control measures and risk evaluation scores).	There are no direct risks arising from adoption of the Strategy, Charter and Mandate.
<b>Consultation</b> (identify any public or other consultation that has been carried out on this matter)	N/A
<b>Equalities</b> (has an Equalities Impact Assessment been completed? If not, why not?)	N/A – there are no equalities implications arising from adoption of the Strategy, Charter and Mandate.
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b> (where personal data is processed a DPIA must be completed to ensure compliant handling)	N/A

## Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Internal Audit Strategy

Appendix 2 – Internal Audit Charter and Mandate