

ITEM 2 – APPENDIX A

INTERNAL AUDIT 2023/24

Summary: To present the Internal Audit Report for 2023/24.

Recommendation: That the Internal Audit Report be noted.

Report by: Magda Glanowska – Head of Finance

1. Under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Board is required to arrange an Internal Audit of its functions in accordance with the mandatory sections of guidance published in March 2023 by the Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance.
2. The programme of work was completed by Janet Eustace of GAPTC, an independent qualified accountant and auditor, appointed by the Board – APPENDIX A.
3. A summary of the audit scope and coverage is attached at *Appendix A(ii)*, together with brief details of the audit findings and conclusions. The overall audit conclusion arising from the year's work is that, in all significant respects, the Board has adequate assurance that good systems are in place; that those systems and controls are operating as intended; and that improvements have been made in line with all previous audit recommendations.
4. The report draws attention to a few recommendations for action – (please items 3.1, 3.3, 3.8, 5.6, 7.1, 8.1, 8.2 & 8.3), which we have considered and actioned when necessary.
5. The report has been considered and accepted by members of the Board's Finance and Governance Committee at its meeting on 17th May 2024.
6. Internal Audit work feeds into and supports the Board's mandatory Annual Governance Review, which has been reported formally to the Executive Committee, and which is presented for approval at this AGM.
7. In addition, under the Limited Assurance regime, the Board's External Auditor requires that Internal Audit opinions for the year should be summarised in a specified format within the Board's Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), which is also presented for approval at this AGM.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

- Appendix A(i) – AIAR 2023-24
- Appendix A(ii) - Internal Audit Report