

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

7 DECEMBER 2016

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT, GOVERNANCE AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE
HELD ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2016**

**AUDIT, GOVERNANCE AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE – ANNUAL REPORT
TO COUNCIL 2015/16**

Issue for Decision

To note the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee Annual Report for 2015/16.

Recommendation Made

That the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee Annual Report 2015/16, which demonstrates how the Committee discharged its duties during 2015/16, provides assurance that important internal control, governance and risk management issues are being monitored and addressed by the Committee and provides additional assurance to support the Annual Governance Statement, be noted.

Reasons for Recommendation

The Audit, Governance and Standards Committee, at its meeting held on 19 September 2016, considered its Annual Report for 2015/16 (copy attached as Appendix A). It was noted that:

- The report represented a retrospective review of the activity of the Committee and reflected its terms of reference. It provided assurance that important internal control, governance and risk management issues were being monitored and addressed by the Committee and provided additional assurance to support the Annual Governance Statement.
- The report also included a refreshed programme of development briefings, to be delivered prior to each meeting of the Committee, designed to complement and provide insight into the types of issues that the Committee would be considering over the course of the year.

The Committee agreed that the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee Annual Report for 2015/16 be approved for submission to the Council.

The Committee also felt that the proposed programme of development briefings represented a comprehensive package to address Members' needs, but asked the Officers to consider whether the proposed briefing on commissioning, procurement and contracting could be delivered during 2016/17.

Alternatives Considered and Why Not Recommended

No alternative actions are considered appropriate as the report demonstrates how the Committee discharged its duties during 2015/16, provides assurance that important internal control, governance and risk management issues are being monitored and addressed by the Committee and provides additional assurance to support the Annual Governance Statement.

Background Documents

None