

Audit & Governance Committee Effectiveness Self Assessment

Appendix 3

Assessment scores:

1-Hardly ever/Poor/Definitely disagree 2- Occasionally/Inadequately/Partly disagree 3 - Most of the time/Satisfactory/Partly agree 4 - All of the time/Good/Definitely agree N/A - Not applicable

CORE AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE	2019/20 Average	2018/19 Average	2017/18 Average	Difference between 2019/20 and 2018/19 averages
1 Members with appropriate skills and experience				
The A&G Committee should comprise members with an appropriate mix of skills and experience, including some relevant financial experience.	3.7	3.2	3.8	0.5
2 Clear terms of reference				
There are clear, up to date terms of reference, with clarity as to the Committee's role in relation to the Council and other Committees	3.7	3.7	3.8	0.0
3 Structured and appropriate annual agenda				
There is a structured annual agenda of matters to be covered, with focus on the right areas.	4.0	3.5	3.8	0.5
4 Sufficient number of meetings and access to resources				
The number and length of meetings and access to resources is sufficient to allow the Committee fully to discharge its duties.	4.0	3.2	3.5	0.8
5 Concise, relevant and timely information				
The A&G Committee papers are concise, relevant and permit timely resolution of the issues raised	3.7	2.8	3.0	0.9
6 The right people are invited to attend and present at meetings				
Senior officers and others are asked to present on issues as appropriate.	4.0	3.2	3.8	0.8
7 Attendance and contribution to meetings				
All A&G Committee members attend and actively contribute at meetings	2.7	2.6	3.3	0.1
8 Sufficient time and commitment to undertake responsibilities				
As an A&G Committee member I have sufficient time and commitment to fulfil my responsibilities	4.0	2.5	3.5	1.5
9 On-going personal development				
A&G Committee members have access to on-going development activities to update their skills and knowledge.	4.0	3.2	3.8	0.8
10 Understanding the Council's business				
The A&G Committee has a good understanding of the different risks inherent in the council's business activities.	3.3	3.0	3.3	0.3
11 Focus on appropriate areas				
The A&G Committee focuses on the right questions and is effective in avoiding minutia	3.7	3.2	3.2	0.5
12 Understanding of how assurance is gained				
The A&G Committee understands the relationship between the various sources of assurance available to it.	3.3	3.3	3.2	0.0
13 Quality of interaction with external audit				
The A&G Committee actively engages with the external auditors regarding the scope of their work and audit findings.	3.7	3.2	3.2	0.5
14 Quality of interaction with internal audit				
The A&G Committee demonstrates an appropriate degree of involvement in the work of internal audit and its findings.	4.0	3.0	3.3	1.0
15 Frank, open working relationship with senior officers				
A&G Committee members have a frank and open relationship with senior officers, whilst avoiding the temptation to act as officers.	4.0	3.0	3.7	1.0
16 Open channels of communication				
The A&G Committee has open channels of communication with officers and other members to keep it aware of topical/regulatory issues.	4.0	3.0	3.5	1.0
17 Rigour of debate				
A&G Committee meetings encourage a high quality of debate with robust and probing discussions.	3.7	2.8	3.5	0.9
18 Reaction to bad news				

The A&G Committee responds positively and constructively to bad news to encourage future transparency.	3.3	3.0	3.0	0.3
19 Perceived to have a positive impact				
There is an appropriate balance between the monitoring role and the Committee acting as an "influencer for good".	3.7	2.6	3.3	1.1
20 Quality of chairmanship				
The Chair promotes effective and efficient meetings	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0
21 How do we know that we are being effective in achieving our terms of reference and adding value to the corporate governance of the Authority?				
<i>Via sufficient measures and controls that mitigate our risk and via ongoing passing of Audit.</i>				
<i>If nothing else people in authority know that any decision being made will be looked at by the A&G Good Ext Audit report.</i>				
Progress of audits & reports.				
22 How do we know what impact we are having?				
<i>It is clear in the reports and challenge given to data and the good results the Council produces. VMcG</i>				
<i>If we are having a positive impact, we should see less over expenditure and see portfolio holders think more about where our money is going/being allocated.</i>				
<i>Feedback of audit recommendations.</i>				
23 What do we do well as a committee?				
<i>Challenge and have open debate.</i>				
<i>Try to understand the positions that decision makers are in and budget restraints.</i>				
<i>Read and take up issues, if any.</i>				
24 What could we do differently or better as a Committee?				
<i>More members could read and try to understand the detail</i>				