

# Report to Audit and Risk Assurance Committee

**11 February 2021**

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Subject:</b>         | CIPFA Audit Committee Update  |
| <b>Director:</b>        | Rebecca Maher<br>Acting Section 151 Officer   |
| <b>Contact Officer:</b> | Peter Farrow<br>Audit Services and Risk Management Manager,<br><a href="mailto:peter_farrow@sandwell.gov.uk">peter_farrow@sandwell.gov.uk</a> |

## 1 Recommendation

- 1.1 To review and comment upon the latest CIPFA Audit Committee Update

## 2 Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 To inform the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee of the latest CIPFA Audit Committee Update which has a focus on the Head of Audit Opinion, the Redmond Review and a regular briefing on current issues.

## 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee helps strengthen the risk, governance and internal control environment.

## 4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 CIPFA produce a series of briefing papers to support public sector audit committee members and to provide a practical resource for those who support audit committees. The update is published approximately three times a year. Each one will include a main feature, together with pointers to new developments or guidance that audit committee members may need to be aware of. The latest edition includes a focus on the Head of Audit Opinion, the Redmond Review and a regular briefing on current issues.



## 5 Alternative Options

- 5.1 The purpose of the report is to inform the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee on the latest CIPFA Audit Committee Update. As such, there is no alternative option.

## 6 Implications

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Resources:</b>            | There are no direct resource implications arising from this report.   |
| <b>Legal and Governance:</b> | Internal audit is a statutory service in the context of the Local Government Accounts and Audit Regulations (Amendment)(England) 2015. The Act states that: <i>“A relevant authority must undertake an effective internal audit to evaluate the effectiveness of its risk management, control and governance processes, taking into account public sector internal auditing standards or guidance”</i> . These Standards have been adopted by the council’s internal audit section. |
| <b>Risk:</b>                 | The agreed actions detailed in many of the reports presented to the committee are designed to mitigate risks.   |
| <b>Equality:</b>             | It was not necessary to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment.  |
| <b>Health and Wellbeing:</b> | There are no direct health and wellbeing implications from this report.   |
| <b>Social Value</b>          | There are no direct social value implications from this report.   |

## 7. Appendices

There are no appendices.

## 8. Background Papers

CIPFA Audit Committee Update issue 33.

