



### **Audit & Standards Committee annual report 2021/2022**

**Date of meeting** 18 March 2022

**Date of report** 28 February 2022

#### **Report by Chief Executive**

#### **1. Object of report**

To provide the Partnership with an annual report detailing the work of the Audit & Standards Committee during 2021/2022.

#### **2. Background**

##### Role of the Audit & Standards Committee

The role of the Audit & Standards Committee is to:

- consider the effectiveness of the Partnership's risk management arrangements, the control environment and associated anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements;
- seek assurances that action is being taken on risk-related issues identified by auditors and inspectors; and
- be satisfied that the Partnership's assurance statements, including the Statement on the System of Internal Financial Control, properly reflect the risk environment and any actions require to improve it.

The full terms of reference for Audit & Standards Committee can be found in Appendix 1.

#### **3. Outline of proposals**

At its meeting of 18 February 2022, the Audit & Standards Committee discussed an annual report on the work of the Committee throughout the 2021/2022 financial year.

The Audit & Standards Committee met four (4) times in the 2021/2022 financial year and considered fifty-three (53) reports at these meetings.

The core functions of the Audit & Standards Committee include reviewing the Partnership's arrangements for the provision of assurance frameworks, counter fraud, financial reporting, governance and ethical values, and risk management.

The Committee receives reports from the external auditor, internal audit and other assurance providers throughout the year.

#### 4. Conclusion

At its meeting of 18 February 2022, the Audit & Standards Committee discussed an annual report on the work of the Committee throughout the 2021/2022 financial year.

#### 5. Partnership action

The Partnership is asked to note the Audit & Standards Committee annual report 2021/2022.

#### 6. Consequences

Policy consequences	<i>In accordance with Strathclyde Partnership for Transport Committee Terms of Reference.</i>
Legal consequences	<i>None.</i>
Financial consequences	<i>None.</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>None.</i>
Equalities consequences	<i>None.</i>
Risk consequences	<i>None.</i>

**Name** Neil Wylie  
**Title** **Director of Finance  
& Corporate Support**

**Name** Valerie Davidson  
**Title** **Chief Executive**

For further information, please contact Iain McNicol, Audit & Assurance Manager, on 0141 333 3195.

## APPENDIX 1

### Audit and Standards committee – Terms of Reference

Number of members:	10
Meetings:	Quarterly and as and when required
Quorum:	3 always provided that in order to form a quorum at any meeting of the Partnership, or committee, at least three of the constituent councils must be represented

Subject to the exclusions and limitations to delegation, the compliance with the policies of the Partnership and the requirement to ensure that the appropriate financial provision is available if any decisions are taken which will have any budgetary implications, this committee is authorised:-

1. To consider the effectiveness of the Partnership's risk management arrangements, the control environment and associated anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements.
2. To seek assurances that action is being taken on risk-related issues identified by auditors and inspectors.
3. To be satisfied that the Partnership's assurance statements, including the Statement on the System of Internal Financial Control, properly reflect the risk environment and any actions required to improve it.
4. To approve (but not direct) internal audit's strategy plan and monitor performance.
5. To review summary internal audit reports and the main issues arising and seek assurance that action has been taken where necessary.
6. To receive the annual report of internal audit.
7. To consider the Partnership's annual financial statements.
8. To consider the reports of external audit and inspection agencies.
9. To ensure that there are effective relationships between external and internal audit, inspection agencies and other relevant bodies, and that the value of the audit process is actively promoted.
10. To review the financial statements, external auditor's opinion and reports to members, and monitor management action in response to the issues raised by external audit.
11. To promote the delivery by members and officers of high standards of conduct, including scrutiny of the relevant Register of Interests.
12. To promote value for money studies.
13. To promote and monitor financial controls, civic management and corporate governance.
14. To assist members to observe the Code of Conduct in accordance with any guidance issued by the Standards Commission for Scotland.

