

SUBJECT:	Understanding how the Audit Committee gains assurance from Management	
REPORT OF:	Director of Resources	Jim Burness
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Head of Finance	Rodney Fincham
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WARD/S AFFECTED	All	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To consider the response to the External Auditor's request for information on how the Audit Committee gains assurance from Management.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Audit Committee agrees the proposed response to the External Auditor's letter, requesting information on how the Audit Committee gains assurance from Management.

2. Report

- 2.1 Auditing standards require our external auditors (Ernst & Young) to formally update their understanding of South Bucks' management processes at least annually.
- 2.2 As part of this they formally request that both the section 151 officer (the Director of Resources), and the chair of the Audit Committee provide written responses to various questions about the Council's management processes.
- 2.3 The formal request to the chair of the Audit Committee is included as Appendix 1 and the proposed response is included as Appendix 2.
- 2.4 The Audit Committee is requested to review the letter and proposed response, and suggest any changes.

3. Next Step

- 3.1 Once agreed, the Chair of the Audit Committee will then be requested to sign the formal response.

Background Papers:	None
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