

# Scope of Internal Audit

Ref: KPC Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Appendix 7.

## *An approach to internal audit testing*

Internal Control	Suggested testing
Proper bookkeeping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the cashbook maintained and up to date?</li> <li>• Is the cashbook arithmetic correct?</li> <li>• Is the cashbook regularly balanced?</li> </ul>
a) standing orders and financial regulations adopted and applied; and b) payments controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has the council formally adopted standing orders and financial regulations?</li> <li>• Has a Responsible finance officer been appointed with specific duties?</li> <li>• Have items or services above the de minimus amount been competitively purchased?</li> <li>• Are payments in the cashbook supported by invoices, authorised and minuted?</li> <li>• Has VAT on payments been identified, recorded and reclaimed?</li> <li>• Is s137 expenditure separately recorded and within statutory limits?</li> </ul>
Risk management arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does a review of the minutes identify any unusual financial activity?</li> <li>• Do minutes record the council carrying out an annual risk assessment?</li> <li>• Is insurance cover appropriate and adequate?</li> <li>• Are internal financial controls documented and regularly reviewed?</li> </ul>
Budgetary Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has the council prepared an annual budget in support of its precept?</li> <li>• Is actual expenditure against the budget regularly reported to the council?</li> <li>• Are there any significant unexplained variances from budget?</li> </ul>
Income Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is income properly recorded and promptly banked?</li> <li>• Does the precept recorded agree to the Council Tax authority's notification?</li> <li>• Are security controls over cash and near-cash adequate and effective?</li> </ul>
Petty cash procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is all petty cash spent recorded and supported by VAT invoices/receipts?</li> <li>• Is petty cash expenditure reported to each council meeting?</li> <li>• Is petty cash reimbursement carried out regularly?</li> </ul>
Payroll Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do all employees have contracts of employment with clear terms and conditions?</li> <li>• Do salaries paid agree with those approved by the council?</li> <li>• Are other payments to employees reasonable and approved by the council?</li> <li>• Have PAYE/NIC been properly operated by the council as an employer?</li> </ul>
Assets controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the council maintain a register of all material assets owned or in its care?</li> <li>• Are the assets and Investments registers up to date?</li> <li>• Do asset insurance valuations agree with those in the asset register?</li> </ul>
Bank Reconciliation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there a bank reconciliation for each account?</li> <li>• Is a bank reconciliation carried out regularly and in a timely fashion?</li> <li>• Are there any unexplained balancing entries in any reconciliation?</li> <li>• Is the value of investments held summarised on the reconciliation?</li> </ul>
Year-end procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are year end accounts prepared on the correct accounting basis (Receipts and Payments or Income and Expenditure)?</li> <li>• Do accounts agree with the cashbook?</li> <li>• Is there an audit trail from underlying financial records to the accounts?</li> <li>• Where appropriate, have debtors and creditors been properly recorded?</li> </ul>