

ANNEX B

	CIPFA's suggested size of an Audit Committee is between 6 and 8 Members. Audit and Governance Committee currently has 17 Members. What is your opinion on the size of the Audit and Governance Committee and does it hinder your ability to contribute to discussions?	CIPFA recommends that Independent Members (not Councillors) who have knowledge and experience of Audit are introduced to the Audit and Governance Committee? What is your view on this?	CIPFA discourages Executive Members sitting on the Audit Committee. What is your view on this?
Audit and Governance Committee Responses			
1	Too big to provide suitable training and updating	Good idea but need to ensure political neutrality	No cttee needs to be independent of exec
2	No	It could be helpful to have expertise in place beyond those involved in party political process. However, the selection of independent members may be tricky.	Good to separate out some of the potential bias in scrutiny of executive actions.
3	I don't have a problem with 17 - I can ask questions and clarification when needed.	No problem with this, but they may be hard to find.	Agree - marking your own homework.
4	Happy with 17 but could split down to working parties for particular issues.	I think this would be good.	Yes, I agree. Some councillors may feel intimidated by executive and some executives may feel got at.
5	Too large, difficult for everyone to contribute	NO	Fully agree
6	I would think that 8 members would be a good number.	In principle , yes . Obviously "lay" members should not out-number elected ones	Probably a sensible policy
7	I don't think it is a hindrance	I am open to the suggestion	I don't see the necessity of a ban on executive members, they may be able to give important contributions
8	Happy to reduce the size of this committee in line with recommendation	This recommendation would give the committee greater transparency	I agree
9	The current size is large with some seats being filled just for numbers, a smaller more effective audit seems suitable	I am happy for independent individuals to attend and contribute	Completely agree
10	It seems quite large.....we have interesting discussions but I think several of us members are a bit lacking in the confidence/have read the very lengthy papers but had difficulty deciding the issues to take up	Sounds a sensible idea and worth trying to see how well it works out	Not sure that I have views either way

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11	I contribute. But it's common for a number of members to be silent all meeting.	It's right to follow CIPFA recommendations	I agree. The executive makes most of the decisions under this council structure. The consequences of their decisions are what gets audited, alongside general operations.
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Non Audit and Governance Committee Responses			
1	I have not yet sat on Audit committee, but 17 sounds a lot	Yes, good idea for at least 1 or 2 members to be independent	I was on the Audit Committee as an Executive Member. I didn't see that there was a particular problem in terms of independence, particularly as the proceedings are live-streamed, and I declared an interest if the proceedings related to my portfolio in particular. I think it is good to have the perspective of at least one of the Executive Members on the committee, though if the workings of the committee are taken outside of livestreamed meetings then there could potentially be conflicts of interest in the future.
2	Needs to be reduced	Sounds sensible	Since they cannot sit on scrutiny, I would have thought executive members on audit was OK.
3		Yes if they have the Bandwidth of time to volunteer	No opinion either way