## The Governing Body of Southern Regional College

Standard meeting of the **AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE** of the Governing Body scheduled for **Tuesday 13 May 2025** at **18.30** in the **Boardroom, Portadown campus or via TEAMs.** 

Item No	Item	Papers	Action	Presenter	TOR
1.	Apologies for Absence	Verbal	Noting	Secretary	
2.	Declaration of Interests	Verbal	Noting	Chair	
3.	Minutes of the meeting of 28th January 2025	Enclosed	Approval	Chair	
4.	Matters Arising	Enclosed	Noting	Chair	
5.	Chairperson's Business	Verbal	Noting	Chair	
6.	Policy Approval a) Risk Management Policy b) Anti-Fraud c) Fraud Response Plan	Enclosed	Approval	Mrs L Campbell / Ms McGuigan	
7.	Corporate Risk Register	Enclosed	Noting	Mrs L Campbell	1–8,10
8.	Internal Audit Progress Report	Enclosed	Noting	Mr McCartney	1–8,10
9.	Global Internal Audit Standards (GIAS) April 2025	Enclosed	Noting	Mr McCartney	1–8,10
10.	Emerging Risk Rader	Enclosed	Noting	Mr McCartney	1-8, 10
11.	Internal Audit Reports  • Governance	Verbal	Noting	Mrs L Campbell	
12.	Recommendations Update	Enclosed	Noting	Ms McGuigan	1–8,10
13.	External Audit Strategy 2024-2025	Enclosed	Noting	Mr O'Neill	1–8,10
14.	Direct Award Contracts	Verbal	Noting	Ms McGuigan	1–8,10
15.	DfE Compliance Audits	Verbal	Noting	Ms McGuigan	3, 4
16.	<ul> <li>DAO correspondence</li> <li>a) Guide for Governors Document Update</li> <li>b) Corporate Governance in Central Government Departments</li> <li>c) Effective Audit and Risk Assurance Committees</li> <li>d) GIAS Complete Global International Audit Standards</li> <li>e) Application Note Global International Audit Standards</li> </ul>	Enclosed	Noting	Mrs L Campbell	1

17.	Any other business
18.	Review of Meeting
Date a	and Time of Next Meeting – <b>TBC</b>

## **Distribution List**

**Members** Mrs Hilary Singleton (Chair), Mrs Geraldine Campbell, Mrs Patricia McCaffrey, Mrs Sharon O'Hare and Mr Andrew Sloan

Attendees Dr Thomas Moore (Chair of the Governing Body), Mrs Lee Campbell (Principal / Chief Executive Officer), Miss Joanne McGuigan (Interim Director of Finance and Planning), Mrs Heather Sampson (DfE), Mr Brian O'Neill (NIAO), Ms Laura Murphy (NIAO), Mr Ryan Lunney (NIAO), Mr Ian McCartney (RSM UK), Mr Andrew Sloan and Mrs Emma Foster (Acting Secretary to the Governing Body)

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Audit and Risk Committee is authorised by the Governing Body to investigate any activity within its Terms of Reference and all staff and members of the Governing Body are required to co-operate with the Committee. The Committee shall provide a channel of communication from the College's auditors and is independent of the College Management.

The ToR can be summarised as follows:

In particular, the Committee is responsible for ensuring that the internal control systems, including audit activities, of the College are monitored actively, independently and objectively in order to:

- 1. promote and ensure high standards of propriety, accountability and financial management within the College;
- 2. improve the quality of financial reporting by reviewing internal and external financial statements on behalf of the Governing Body;
- 3. promote a financial climate of financial discipline and control which will help to reduce the opportunity for financial mismanagement or fraud;
- 4. improve where necessary, the effectiveness of the College's internal controls and mechanisms for achieving value for money and the extent to which these comply with requirements set down by the Department;
- 5. reinforce the independence and effectiveness of the internal audit function and to underpin the objectivity and independence of the external auditors;
- 6. provide oversight on the reliability of the College's information systems;
- 7. ensure that effective risk management processes are embedded within the College;
- 8. provide a sounding board for College management on issues of concern in relation to the College's internal control systems;
- 9. review and approve local policies that fall within the remit of the Committee; and
- 10. contribute to the maintenance or increasing of public confidence in the quality of the College's corporate governance and management.