

The Governing Body of Southern Regional College

Standard meeting of the Audit Committee of the Governing Body scheduled for **Tuesday 12 November 2019 at 18.30** in the **Oracle Bistro, Portadown Campus**.

Item No	Item	Papers	Action	Presenter	TOR
1.	Apologies for Absence	Verbal	Noting	Clerk	
2.	Declaration of Interests	Verbal	Noting	Chair	
3.	Minutes of the meeting of 17 September 2019	Enclosed	Approval	Chair	
4.	Matters Arising	Verbal	Noting	Chair	
5.	Chairman's Business	Verbal	Noting	Chair	
6.	Audit Committee Annual Report and Self-Assessment	Enclosed	Approval	Chair	1 – 9
7.	Audit Committee Terms of Reference	Enclosed	Approval	Chair	1 – 9
8.	Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period ended 31 July 2019	Enclosed	Endorsement	Mr McGonigal	1 – 9
9.	Report to Those Charged With Governance	Enclosed	Noting	NIAO	1 – 9
10.	Internal Audit Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of HR – Absence Management • Review of the Banbridge New Build • Review of Procurement and use of Business Cases 	Enclosed	Noting	Grant Thornton	1, 2, 4, 5, 8
11.	Corporate Risk Register	Enclosed	Noting	Mr Doran	1, 7, 9
12.	National Fraud Initiative	Verbal	Noting	Mr McGonigal	1, 3, 7, 9
13.	DfE Compliance Audits	Verbal	Noting	Mr McGonigal	4
14.	Any Other Business	Verbal	Noting	Chair	
Date and Time of Next Meeting – Tuesday 11 February 2020 at 18.30 in the Oracle Bistro, Portadown Campus.					

Distribution List

Members Mr John Nugent (Chair), Prof Gregory O'Hare, Mr Aidan McCormick, Dr Eileen Stewart and Mr Matthew Turner.

Attendees Mr Brian Doran (CEO), Mr Andrew Saunders (Chair of the Governing Body), Mr Terry McGonigal (Director of Finance and Planning), Mr Wayne Smyth (DfE), Mr Tomas Wilkinson (NIAO), Mrs Lindsey Paterson (PWC), Mr Jason McCallion (PWC) Mr Neal Taylor (Grant Thornton), Mrs Kimberley Neill McCready (Boardroom Apprentice) and Miss Lindsay Armstrong (Secretary to the Governing Body)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Audit 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; and
9. contribute to the maintenance or increasing of public confidence in the quality of the College's corporate governance and management.