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**AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING**

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Date of Meeting	27 September 2017
Paper Title	Audit Committee Review of Remit
Agenda Item	17.37
Paper Number	17.37A
Responsible Officer	D Watt, Audit Committee Chair
Status	Disclosable
Action	For Discussion

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**1. REPORT PURPOSE**

The purpose of this item is to allow Committee Members an opportunity to review the Remit of the audit Committee and to agree any changes to be recommended to the Board.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

Committee Members are invited to discuss the Remit of the Audit Committee and agree to any changes to be recommended to the Board of Management.

**3. BACKGROUND**

At the March 2017 Meeting of the Board, following the conclusion of the External Effectiveness Review, a Board Development Plan was agreed. One of the development areas within that plan was to review the Remits of the Committees to ensure effective use of Committee and Board time.

A Paper was taken to the August 2017 Board Meeting inviting the Board to review the Remits. It was agreed by the Board that each Committee should review its own remit in the first instance.

The Code of Good Governance makes some stipulations in respect of the Committees:

*Audit Committee*

*C.13 The Audit Committee must support the board and the principal by reviewing the comprehensiveness, reliability and integrity of assurances including the body's governance, risk management and internal control framework.*

*C.14 The scope of the Audit Committee's work must be defined in its terms of reference and encompass all of the assurance needs of the board and*

*the principal. The Audit Committee must have particular engagement with internal and external audit, and must work with management and auditors to resolve any issues in relation to financial reporting.*

*C.15 The Audit Committee must promptly pursue recommendations arising from audit reports and must monitor their implementation.*

*C.16 The membership of the Audit Committee cannot include the board chair or the principal. The role of the college executive is to attend meetings at the invitation of the committee chair and to provide information for particular agenda items.*

*C.17 The Audit Committee terms of reference must provide for the committee to sit privately without any non-members present for all or part of a meeting if they so decide. The Audit Committee members should meet with the internal and external auditors without the executive team present at least annually.*

*C.18 At least one member of the Audit Committee should have recent relevant financial or audit experience.*

A copy of the Remit of the Audit Committee is attached. Committee Members are invited to consider the Remit alongside the requirements of the Code of Good Governance and consider any amendments which would better utilise the Committee's time and meet the governance requirements.

The Committee should then agree draft changes and report these to a future meeting of the Board of Management.

**3. RISK ANALYSIS**

There are no specific risk implications in this paper.

**4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/ FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ REGIONAL OUTCOME AGREEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

**5. HAS AN EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT BEEN CARRIED OUT**

N/A

