

Independent Member of the Audit & Governance Committee

Role description

Job Description

As an Independent Member of the Audit and Governance Committee, you will provide independent assurance on the effectiveness of the control environment and corporate governance arrangements within the Council. Your role will involve reviewing financial statements, monitoring audit activities, and promoting high standards of conduct among councillors and co-opted members.

Key Responsibilities

- Review the annual statement of accounts and annual governance statement.
- Consider reports from internal and external auditors.
- Monitor the independence, objectivity, and performance of auditors.
- Oversee counter fraud plans and activities.
- Review the council's treasury management strategy and activities.
- Promote high standards of conduct by councillors and co-opted members.
- Participate in committee meetings and training sessions.

Qualifications

- Practical experience in financial or general management within a business or public sector environment.
- Understanding of internal and external audit roles and the importance of good risk management.
- Ability to analyse, interpret, and absorb information effectively and quickly.
- Good communication and interpersonal skills.
- Commitment to building a strong council with clearly articulated objectives and purpose.
- Understanding of statutory duties and legislative requirements relevant to local government.
- Previous experience of audit-related activities is desirable but not essential.

Independence Criteria

To ensure independence, candidates must not be:

- Councillors, co-opted members, or officers of Oxfordshire County Council.
- Relatives or close friends of such persons.
- Affiliated with any political party.

Terms of Appointment:

- Fixed term of four years.
- Annual allowance of £3,156 plus reasonable expenses.
- Appointment subject to approval by a majority of Council members.