

Role Profile

Job Title:	Independent Member - Governance, Audit, Risk Management and Standards Committee
Location:	Hendon Town Hall
Department:	N/A
Directorate:	Assurance & Public Protection
Type of Working:	Onsite Working
Reports to:	N/A

1. Job Purpose:

To provide independent assurance and challenge on the Council's governance, audit, risk management, and financial oversight arrangements. The role supports Members by ensuring robust governance frameworks, effective internal controls, sound financial management, and value-for-money practices are in place. It also oversees internal and external audit activities, financial reporting, and annual governance processes to help maintain high standards of accountability, transparency, and organisational performance.

2. Key accountabilities:

- Attend meetings of the Governance, Audit, Risk Management and Standards Committee as and when required and, in a non-voting capacity, assist the Committee, as appropriate
- Participate in training and development related to the role

Governance and Risk

- Monitor the effectiveness of corporate governance and risk management
- Review the Annual Governance Statement

Audit and Assurance

- Oversee internal audit activity and approve the audit plan
- Consider external audit reports and findings

Financial Reporting

- Review and contribute to the Committee's consideration of the Statement of Accounts

- Consider treasury management arrangements

Counter-Fraud

- Oversee counter-fraud strategy and activity

Additional information:

- Independent Member appointments are for a 4-year term.
- Independent Member appointments must be approved at a Full Council meeting by a majority of the councillors voting upon the appointments.
- Candidates will be shortlisted and invited to interview prior to recommendation for appointment.

3. Promotion of Corporate Values

The Independent Member is expected to demonstrate the Council's values in carrying out the role, particularly in relation to integrity, evidence-based decision making, inclusion and constructive challenge.

4. The Council's Commitment to Equality

The Independent Member is expected to support the Council's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion and to promote high standards of conduct, fairness and respect in carrying out the role.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Title	Independent Member – Governance, Audit, Risk Management and Standards Committee
Location:	Hendon Town Hall
Department:	N/A
Directorate:	Assurance & Public Protection
Grade:	N/A
Type of Working	Onsite Working
Reports to:	N/A

The successful candidate will be expected to develop an understanding of Barnet Council's governance framework, organisational structure, key priorities and relevant legislation through induction and ongoing training.

Criteria	Essential/Desirable	Assessed by:
Experience & Knowledge		
Experience operating at a senior level within a large, complex organisation or equivalent experience demonstrating strategic oversight and independent judgement.	Essential	Application/Interview
Experience in audit, governance, risk management, financial management, regulatory oversight or assurance-related functions.	Desirable	Application/Interview
Understanding of governance, audit, risk management, financial management or assurance arrangements within local government or the wider public sector.	Essential	Application/Interview
Understanding of the legislative and regulatory environment in which local authorities operate.	Essential	Application/Interview
Understanding of the principles of public accountability, transparency and stewardship of public resources.	Essential	Application/Interview
Ability to attend evening committee meetings and participate in relevant induction and development activities.	Essential	Application/Interview
Skill & Ability		

Ability to provide independent, objective and constructive challenge to senior officers, auditors and elected Members.	Essential	Application/Interview
Ability to review committee papers, identify key risks and issues, and contribute effectively to committee discussions.	Essential	Application/Interview
Ability to understand complex issues and the importance of accountability and probity in public life.	Essential	Application/Interview
Ability to analyse and question written and verbal reports on audit and risk management activities.	Essential	Application/Interview
Understand the importance of maintaining the independence of audit from day-to-day management responsibilities.	Essential	Application/Interview
Ability to exercise sound judgement and discretion when handling sensitive information.	Essential	Application/Interview
Have effective interpersonal skills.	Essential	Application/Interview
Be able to maintain strictest confidentiality of sensitive information.	Essential	Application/Interview
Independence & Eligibility		
Must be willing to comply with the Members' Code of Conduct.	Essential	Application
Must satisfy the eligibility criteria for appointment as an Independent Member of the Governance, Audit, Risk Management and Standards Committee.	Essential	Application
Must be able to demonstrate independence, integrity and objectivity.	Essential	Application
Must be able to identify and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.	Essential	Application
Values & Behaviours		
Caring		
Integrity- I work with candidates and colleagues in a way that builds trust.	Essential	Application/Interview
Learning to Improve		

Caring for **people**, our **places** and the **planet**

Insight- I regularly rely on evidence and professional standards to support my work and decision making.	Essential	Application/Interview
Inclusive		
Engage with discomfort- I am open to and reflect on what makes me uncomfortable and use my engagement with others to challenge myself and constructively challenge others	Essential	Application/Interview
Collaborative		
Outcomes Focused- I adapt my way of working to best suit the outcome we are trying to achieve within the scope of my role and professional standards	Essential	Application/Interview