

ANGUS COUNCIL

SCRUTINY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – 29 SEPTEMBER 2015

MANAGING CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA PAPERS - ACTION PLAN

**REPORT BY RICHARD STIFF, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
AND
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ABSTRACT

This paper provides members with the report prepared by Audit Scotland on the council's arrangements for the management of confidential or "green papers". The report makes a number of recommendations these are set out in the action plan appended to the report together with proposed or implemented responses. Members are invited to consider and comment on the proposed actions.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) note the contents of the Audit Scotland report and action plan;
- (ii) consider and comment on the proposed actions set out in the action plan.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/COPORATE PLAN

This report contributes as a whole to the local outcome(s) contained in the Angus to the Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016:

3. BACKGROUND

Members will recall the concerns arising from the unauthorised release of agenda papers protected under the terms of Part 1 Schedule 7A to the 1973 Local Government Act.

Arising from that situation in addition to an internal review of procedures and circumstances Audit Scotland undertook a review of the council's procedures. Their report is attached as **Appendix 1** to this report. The Audit Scotland report makes a small number of recommendations. The action plan appended to the Audit Scotland report sets out each of these recommendations and shows the proposed or implemented actions against each.

4. PROPOSALS

It is proposed that members consider the content of the Audit Scotland report and consider and approve the associated actions. Members are also invited to offer comment as to any further improvement in the council's procedures and arrangements they may wish to propose.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

6. CONSULTATION (IF APPLICABLE)

Members of the Executive Management Team, the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance and the Democratic Services Manager have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

NOTE: The Audit Scotland Report contained within Appendix 1 was the only background paper considered and relied upon in preparing the above report.

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Audit Scotland report - Angus Council 2014/15 Audit - Managing Confidential Agenda Papers