

A11. Internal and External Audit

Preamble

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 made under section 23 and 35 of the Local Government Finance Act 1982 require the County Council to maintain a continuous, adequate and effective internal audit of the County Council's accounts, which include those accounts operated by schools under the delegated scheme. The following Financial Regulations provide the framework for this statutory duty to be discharged. The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 also requires that schools with delegated budgets should be subject to regular internal audit.

Regulations

- 11.1 The County Council has delegated to the CFO the responsibility for maintaining an adequate and effective internal audit of the activities of the schools maintained by the County Council. The CFO's representative(s) shall have authority to enter at all times any premises or land used by the school and to have access to all correspondence, documents, books and other records of any employee of the County Council or Governing Body and appertaining in any way to the activities of the County Council.
- 11.2 The CFO or his/her representative(s) shall be entitled to require from the Governing Body and from employees of the County Council such explanation as they consider necessary to establish the correctness of any matter under examination. The Chief Finance Officer or his/her representative (s) shall have the authority to require any employee of the County Council or Governing Body to produce cash, stores, or other County Council property under his/her control.
- 11.3 The Chief Finance Officer shall have regard to any relevant professional guidelines and any audit standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board, which is a subsidiary of the Financial Reporting Council and is supported by the Consultative Committee of Accounting Bodies.
- 11.4 The County Council's external auditors have similar powers.
- 11.5 The County Council and its schools are also subject to inspection by various other external auditors, inspectors and organisations (e.g. H.M. Customs & Excise, Inland Revenue).

- 11.6 The Governing Body must undertake periodic review (at least annually) of their financial procedures and controls as described in A3 Delegation. It is the responsibility of the Governing Body and school management to ensure that internal controls are adequate and effective, and to take action to secure this on an ongoing basis.