

AC5. Annual Assurance Statement

The committee considered a report by the Chief Finance Officer which presented the draft Audit Committee Annual Assurance Statement for approval. This was the first Annual Assurance Statement prepared for the committee and came in response to the recommendations of the Internal Audit “IJB’s Assurance Framework – Governance Mapping” report.

The draft Annual Assurance Statement was appended to the report. The statement set out the attendance, meeting dates and business of the Audit Committee during the financial year April 2019 to March 2020. Further work to refine and develop the annual assurance statement would be undertaken during 2020/21. Through the Audit Committee meetings, reports and action plans presented and agreed, output from internal and external audit, together with assurance provided from respective Partners, the Annual Assurance Statement concluded that the Audit Committee had effectively discharged its duties during 2019/20.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) approved the 2019/20 Audit Committee Annual Assurance Statement, and**
- (2) agreed to refer the Annual Assurance Statement to the next meeting of the Integration Joint Board.**