Birmingham City Council Council Business Management Committee

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18 December 2023

Commissioner's Review:

Agenda Item 8 – Amendments to the Constitution

The changes to the Audit Committee terms of reference to bring them into line with CIPFA model procedures are strongly supported. All Members appointed to the Audit Committee should be required to participate in relevant training before being allowed to participate in the committee's work and attend appropriate refresher training when required. A key part of the Audit Committees practice should be an annual self-review of its performance and practice led by the Independent appointee so that the committee and its members improve their performance. Good practice would suggest that the Chair of this committee should not be a member of the administration group but should come from the opposition to emphasise the need for effective stewardship from the whole Council. It is recommended that this change should be implemented at the Annual Meeting in 2024.