

## PUBLIC SECTOR INTERNAL AUDIT STANDARDS - EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSESSMENT

### Audit Committee - 16 July 2020

Report of	Audit Manager
Status	For Consideration
Key Decision	No

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**Executive Summary:** The attached report provides Members of the Audit Committee with an update on the intention of procuring an external quality assessment (EQA) in the 2020/21 financial year, via a self-assessment validation exercise, in order to satisfy the requirements set out by the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (Standards).

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<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	Cllr. Matthew Dickins
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**Recommendation to Audit Committee:** That the decision to procure an external quality assessment via a self-assessment validation (Appendix A) be noted

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**Reason for recommendation:** A self-assessment validation exercise will provide the Audit Team and key stakeholders with the opportunity of being involved in the EQA process, whilst securing value for money and maintaining compliance with professional standards.

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### Introduction and Background

- 1 The Standards require the Internal Audit function to be externally assessed by an independent and competent assessor on at least a five yearly basis. The last EQA exercise for the Dartford & Sevenoaks Audit Partnership was completed in November 2015 and the next is therefore due.

### Key Implications

#### Financial

The cost of procuring an external assessment through a self-assessment validation exercise will be in the region of £5,000 - £10,000.

#### Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

