

Report to:	HEALTHWATCH BLACKPOOL
Relevant Officer:	Mark Towers, Company Secretary
Date of Meeting	17 May 2016

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider the appointment of an external auditor of accounts.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider appointing an external auditor of accounts.

3.0 Reason for Recommendation

3.1 To comply with the guidance from the Department of Health and the Local Government Association.

4.0 Formation of Healthwatch Blackpool

4.1 The Council formed Healthwatch on 23 September 2012, effective from 1 November 2012. It was formed as a company limited by guarantee, a body corporate, ready to carry out statutory functions that are contained in the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

4.2 The DH/ LGA publication – ‘Developing Effective Local Healthwatch’ states that:

A Local Healthwatch is expected to demonstrate accountability by a minimum of:

- an annual meeting, open and accessible to local stakeholders/ members
- an annual report
- audited accounts available for public inspection
- published organisational governance structure chart.

List of Appendices:

None.

5.0 Financial and Legal considerations:

5.0 Accounts are prepared to fulfil the Directors duty to present audited accounts each financial year.

**6.0 Other considerations:
(Performance, Risk, Human Resource and Equalities)**

6.1 It is considered good practice to have the accounts audited.

7.0 Consultation with Volunteers (if appropriate)

7.1 No consultation was appropriate with this item as it is a procedural decision.