

## JPAG TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP | AGENDA

Date	10 October 2023
Time	10:00 - 12:00
Location	Teams

Agenda		
Agenda item	Information	Appendix
1	Apologies for absence	
2	Comments and suggestions received via online form	Appendix 2
3	Suggested amendments to the PG from auditors	Appendix 3
4	<p>AGAR form -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Assertion 9 - trust funds. Following a query from a recent audit, TWG to confirm the guidance in the PG is clear and unambiguous.</li> <li>b) JPAG Sept '23 discussed the new question 11b on the AGAR form as it has caused a large number of questions/concerns. More information will be provided as part of the auditors feedback to allow a review of the wording of that question.</li> <li>c) Request from IAF - Can the TWG look at re-wording objective L of the AGAR and at the same time make the guidance clearer on how to answer the question.</li> </ul>	
5	Email requirements - SLCC have received a query related to para 126 - mandatory email requirement. TWG to review.	Appendix 5
6	<p>Recommendations from Sept '23 JPAG for inclusion in part 4 of the PG -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strongly recommend that all smaller authorities publish the detailed annual internal audit report on their website - this</li> </ul>	

	<p>then at a future date to be further considered for inclusion into section 1 or 2 of the PG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By recommending publication of the report will ensure the public and members have access to the reports. Therefore, providing them with detail about the councils governance.</li> <li>• Public scrutiny of the internal audit report will drive up the quality of reporting which will have a secondary benefit of reducing the number of ineffective poor-quality audits and auditors.</li> <li>• With a greater level of public knowledge afforded by the internal auditor, the public are better informed and able to exercise their democrats right at the election cycle.</li> <li>• Accountability by the council will be driven up if data regarding, staff turnover, complaints and achievement of planned works is also reported on.</li> <li>• Is in the spirit of transparency</li> <li>• Low cost/No cost option.</li> </ul>	
7	<p>Confirming Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 28 November (10.30am to 12pm) - JPAG to consider the changes proposed by TWG</li> <li>• November/December - NALC to edit the practitioners guide with the agreed changes</li> <li>• 4 January 2024 (10.30am to 12pm) - JPAG to approve the updated practitioners guide for 24/25</li> <li>• January/February - time for any final amendments</li> <li>• March - publish the Practitioners Guide 2024/25</li> </ul>	