

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION**

**AGREED PROTOCOL (DECEMBER 2016)**

**Purpose**

This protocol provides reassurance that the work of internal audit is properly supported and protected.

It is agreed:

1. The Head of Internal Audit will have access to the Council's Chief Executive at any time; and in any event will meet with the Chief Executive no less frequently than twice a year to discuss the progress of the audit programme. Any audit reports on his own department will be sent direct to the Chief Executive.
2. The Head of Internal Audit will have access to the Lead Commissioner at any time and will report on any matters of concern that the Council might be in breach of its Best Value duties.
3. The Head of Internal Audit will have unfettered access to the Audit Committee and will present all audit reports in his own name. These reports will include the 'management response' to audit findings.
4. The Head of Internal Audit will have unfettered access to the senior managing professional in KPMG who is the Council's appointed external auditor.
5. For the avoidance of doubt these expectations are as well as, not instead of, the responsibilities of the Council's statutory finance officer.

Signed:

  
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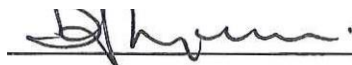
**Head of Internal Audit**  
(David Webster)

Signed:

  
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**Chief Executive**  
(Sharon Kemp)

Signed:

  
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**Lead Commissioner**  
(Sir Derek Myers)

Dated 12 December 2016