

Appendix 1 - CONTROLS ASSURANCE DEFINITIONS

- Excellent (1)** “A cost effective control system is in place commensurate with the risks facing the activity. Compelling evidence is found to corroborate the conclusion that the control systems are operating as expected.”
- Good (2)** “A system of control is in place that is designed to assist in the achievement of service objectives. Strong evidence is available to support the conclusion that controls are operating as expected.”
- Satisfactory (3)** “A system of control is in place that is designed to assist in the achievement of service objectives although there may be opportunities to improve controls. Some evidence is available to support the conclusion that controls are operating as expected.”
- Limited (4)** “A system of control is in place but omits one or more key elements from its design. Alternatively, the auditor may be unable to find any firm evidence that a system is operating as expected. There is a quantifiable risk that service objectives will not be achieved and/or a serious loss (financial or otherwise) will be suffered by the Council.”
- None (5)** “Key features of internal control are missing from the system. The effect of this is to create a strong likelihood that service objectives will not be achieved and/or a serious loss (financial or otherwise) will be suffered by the Council.”