Your Party Governanc e Audit



Scope

- It examines rules, institutions, decision-making, accountability and implementation.
- It does not assess political positions, personalities or factional merits.
- It separates allegations, verified facts, possible non-compliance and weaknesses in the documents.
- Conclusions remain provisional until evidence is tested and affected bodies can respond.

The audit asks three different questions

- Was a clear rule breached?
- Was a right or institution not implemented?
- Is the framework itself weak or ambiguous?

The audit must identify which explanation the evidence supports.

The audit is intended ultimately to provide members with:



An evidence-based account of how governance arrangements operated



Identify areas of compliance, weakness and uncertainty.



Outstanding questions requiring further evidence.



A basis for proportionate institutional or constitutional recommendations.

Operational Definition of Governance

(Provisional)

Governance is the system through which:

- authority is allocated, exercised, constrained and changed;
- decisions are initiated, deliberated, made, implemented and recorded;
- members and representative bodies participate, communicate and hold delegated authority to account; and
- the information, resources and institutional capacity needed to exercise democratic rights are provided.

The audit therefore examines both formal authority and the practical ability to exercise it.

Six areas organise the investigation

Governance area	Core audit question
A. Authority and institutional roles	Who holds power, how is it delegated and what limits it?
B. Decision-making and executive action	Were decisions valid, recorded and implemented?
C. Accountability, transparency and redress	Can authority be scrutinised, challenged and corrected?
D. Participation, representation and communication	Can members obtain information, propose, deliberate and receive feedback?
E. Branch and regional governance and capacity	Are local bodies resourced and able to exercise their mandates?
F. Implementation and transition	Were required institutions established and temporary arrangements ended?

Five safeguards guide the audit

- Adherence to scope.
- Evidence before conclusions.
- Objectivity and neutrality.
- Rigorous treatment of rules, facts and timing.
- An opportunity for factual reply.

Evidence determines our language

Preliminary labels

- **Alleged** — asserted, not yet verified
- **Evidence required** — rule identified; implementation unproved
- **Potential non-compliance** — verified facts may conflict with a clear rule
- **Structural weakness / ambiguity** — concern arises from document design.

A final conclusion requires

- A clear applicable rule and its force
- Sufficiently verified facts
- Resolved document hierarchy and timing
- A factual opportunity for affected bodies to respond

Constraints, safeguards and next steps

- Relevant records may be incomplete, inaccessible or not yet provided.
- Access to CEC and Officers' Group minutes, decisions and implementation records is particularly important.
- Records must be authenticated, dated and placed in sequence.
- Allegations require corroboration and factual responses.
- Non-compliance requires both a clear rule and sufficiently verified facts.
- Gaps or contradictions may support a structural finding rather than an infringement.

The audit will be updated as further evidence is obtained.