Assurance Levels

Assurance levels for all audits follow a standard methodology to ensure reliability and validity of Internal Audit opinion. The table below set out the rationale for the opinion and suggested management action timescales.

Assurance Level	IA Opinion - Controls		IA Opinion - Compliance
High	The system of control is sound and designed to achieve system objectives	&	Controls are complete, consistently applied and compliance is good
Satisfactory	The system of expected control although sound, there are opportunities for improvement to further reduce system objective risks	&/or	Compliance is generally good but there is evidence of non-compliance with some controls
Limited	The system of controls falls below expectation as weaknesses are increasing system objective risks	&/or	There is sufficient evidence of non-compliance which puts the system objectives at risk
Poor / No	The system of control is weak thus significantly increasing system objective risk	&/or	There is significant non-compliance with controls leaving the system vulnerable to abuse or fraud which significantly increases the system objective risks

(END)