

Internal Audit Progress Report

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Lead Member/Relevant Portfolio Holder	

Corporate Priority:	All
Relevant Ward Member(s):	N/A
Date of consultation with Ward Member(s):	N/A
Exempt Information:	Appendix B - Paragraphs 3 (business affairs) and 7 (prevention of crime) of Schedule 12 to the Local Government Act 1972

1 Summary

- 1.1 The report provides the Committee with an update on delivery of the 2024/25 Internal Audit plan.

2 Recommendation

That the Audit and Standards Committee:

- 2.1 Notes the progress made by Internal Audit in delivery of the Internal Audit Plan for 2024/25 and the outcomes of the finalised audit reviews.

3 Reason for Recommendations

3.1 To inform the committee on progress made by Internal Audit on plan delivery and outcome of assignments.

4 Background

4.1 The Audit and Standards Committee approved the Internal Audit Plan for 2024/25 at the meeting on 26th March 2024.

5 Main Considerations

5.1 The progress achieved to date in delivering the 2024/25 Audit Plan is set out in Appendix A.

5.2 At the date of reporting, there are 19 agreed management actions which are overdue for implementation. Further details are provided in Appendix A and Appendix B.

6 Options Considered

6.1 The regular reporting on delivery of the Internal Audit plan is a requirement under the Committee's terms of reference and the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards. If the report was not provided, the Committee could not effectively deliver its role in providing oversight of Internal Audit work under the terms of reference and Standards.

7 Consultation

7.1 Not applicable.

8 Next Steps – Implementation and Communication

8.1 The regular update reports from Internal Audit should allow the Committee to develop independent assurance about the quality of the Council's internal control framework.

9 Financial Implications

9.1 There are no financial or other resource implications arising directly from this report.

Financial Implications reviewed by: Director for Corporate Services

10 Legal and Governance Implications

10.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require the Council a relevant authority to undertake an effective internal audit to evaluate the effectiveness of its risk management, control, and governance processes, taking into account public sector internal auditing standards or guidance. Whilst that audit process offers a level of reassurance in relation to the systems in place, it does not serve as a guarantee of the lawfulness of the Council's actions nor obviate the need for ongoing legal advice in relation to the exercise of the functions undertaken by each service area

Legal Implications reviewed by: Monitoring Officer, 16 September 2024

11 Equality and Safeguarding Implications

11.1 There are no equalities or safeguarding implications arising directly from this report.

12 Data Protection Implications (Mandatory)

12.1 A Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) has not been completed because there are no risks/issues to the rights and freedoms of natural persons arising directly from this report.

13 Community Safety Implications

13.1 There are no community safety implications arising directly from this report.

14 Environmental and Climate Change Implications

14.1 There are no environmental and climate change implications arising directly from this report.

15 Other Implications (where significant)

15.1 There are no other implications arising directly from this report.

16 Risk & Mitigation

16.1 The Internal Audit work provides assurance over the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's internal controls to manage key risks and inform risk management arrangements.

17 Background Papers

17.1 Not applicable

18 Appendices

18.1 Appendix A: Internal Audit Progress Report September 2024

18.2 Appendix B – Exempt – High Priority Actions Overdue for More than 3 Months