

Internal Audit Progress Report

REPORT TO AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE



DATE	16/03/2023
PORTFOLIO	Resources and Performance Management
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PURPOSE

1. To inform members of the work undertaken by Internal Audit for the period 1st October to 31st December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

2. The Committee considers the progress report and comments on its contents.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. Members can monitor the performance of the Internal Audit Section.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

Audit Reports

4. From 1st October to 31st December 2022 there has been 1 audit report produced. Details of this audit is given in **Appendix 1**

Performance Statistics

5. The comparison between actual and planned audits can be seen in **Appendix 2**. Several audits have started, and to date have been completed but due to timing will form part of the annual Audit Opinion report.
6. Performance indicators for Internal Audit are reported in the Finance balanced scorecard. The service currently reports the number of audit reports produced – 11 against an annual target of 22 and the percentage of high-priority actions from audit action plans implemented which was 100% and has a target of 100%.

Internal Audit Resources

7. The resources in the Internal Audit Team for 2023/24 are being agreed, an auditor is returning on a part-time basis after an extended period of leave. The current part-time temporary Auditor has been converted to a part-time permanent Auditor. So, the Audit team will be the Internal Audit Manager, one full time Auditor and two part-time Auditors.
8. Discussions are underway with management to reduce some areas of activity and to carry forward some expenditure to provide additional audit days.

Other Activity

9. The Service provided a Financial Procedure Rules Training session for staff with Accountancy Services.
10. Work continues for the Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23.
11. Planning for 2023/24 Audits have started with consultation with Heads of Service and Management on changes to auditable activities during the past year and their risks.
12. The National Fraud Initiative (NFI) Matches arrived at the beginning of February. These have been provided to service to investigate. We are looking at the Payroll and Creditors matches, especially the high risk matches and the key reports.
13. The service facilitated a Post Covid Business Continuity session for the Council and its partners.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION

14. None

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

15. None

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

16. None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

17. None

FURTHER INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT:

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ALSO: