

## Internal Audit Progress Report

### REPORT TO AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE



DATE	13/01/2021
PORTFOLIO	Resources and Performance Management
REPORT AUTHOR	Ian Evenett
TEL NO	01282 425011 Ext 7175
EMAIL	ievenett@burnley.gov.uk

#### PURPOSE

1. To inform members of the work undertaken by Internal Audit for the period 1st July to 30th September 2020.

#### 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 July to 30th September 2020 there have been 8 audit reports produced. Details of Burnley Council audits are given in **Appendix 1**.

##### **Performance Statistics**

5. The comparison between actual and planned audits can be seen in **Appendix 2**. A number of audits have started, and to date have been completed but due to timing will form part of later quarter statistics to be reported.
6. Performance indicators for Internal Audit are reported in the Finance balanced scorecard. The service currently reports the number of audit reports produced – 12 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%.

##### **Other Activity**

7. The audit team have continued in supporting the Council's business continuity response to the Coronavirus pandemic: -
- assisting with Business Support Grants and processing related suspected fraud reports
  - supporting the Council's Business Transition Group,
  - supporting the Lancashire Resilience Forum (LRF)
  - representing the Council on different LRF groups
  - supporting the Council's Covid Task Force and Localised Track and Trace.
8. The National Fraud Initiative (NFI) has started, and the service has collected and submitted the data for matching, and this is a full exercise including data from across the Council.
9. As stated above there have been several referrals of irregularities specifically in connection with grants to businesses. We have had seven which have been reviewed and actions agreed with management.
10. We have provided support to produce the Statement of Accounts in respect of Related Parties Interests.
11. Internal Audit has carried out follow up reviews on previously completed audits to review completed actions and provided advice and assistance to various services.
12. The vacant Auditors position is still being recruited to. As the plan is based on this post being occupied delays to this position being filled will reduce the Audit Days available.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION**

13. None

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

14. None

#### **DETAILS OF CONSULTATION**

15. None

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

16. None

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

**PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Ian Evenett (Internal Audit Manager) Ext  
7175**

**ALSO:**

**Salma Hussain (Internal Auditor) Ext 3152**