

SUBJECT: INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT

REPORT BY: AUDIT MANAGER

LEAD OFFICER: AUDIT MANAGER

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present the Internal Audit Progress Report to the Audit Committee, incorporating the overall position reached so far, and summaries of the outcomes of audits completed during the period.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The report highlights progress against the audit plan.

3. Background

- 3.1 A key requirement of public sector internal audit standards is that Internal Audit should report progress periodically to those charged with governance. The Audit Committee has within its terms of reference the responsibility for receiving a regular progress report from Internal Audit on the delivery of the Internal Audit Plan.

3.2 Internal Audit Progress Report

- 3.3 The Internal Audit progress report attached (Appendix A) covers the following areas :-

- Progress against the plan
- Summary of Audit work
- Implementation of Audit recommendations
- Current areas of interest relevant to the Audit Committee

3.4 Audit Plan 2020-21

- 3.5 In line with the corporate strategy responding to the pandemic, audit resources have been redeployed to deliver key services, supporting business and protecting the most vulnerable.
- 3.6 As a result the 20/21 audit plan has not yet commenced, other than some initial work on housing benefit subsidy testing. The audit team have been supporting business services and grants administration. A much smaller, revised plan will be developed for 20-21 taking account of COVID risks/issues and be presented at the August or September 2020 Audit Committee. Sufficient audit coverage will be

undertaken to meet statutory responsibilities and provide an audit opinion for 2020-21.

4. Organisational Impacts (nb. Finance, Legal and E & D sections below are mandatory, others to be completed only where there is an impact)

4.1 Finance (including whole life costs where applicable)

There are no direct financial implications arising as a result of this report.

4.2 Legal Implications including Procurement Rules

There are no direct legal implications arising as a result of this report.

4.3 Equality, Diversity & Human Rights (including the outcome of the EA attached, if required)

There are no direct E and D implications arising as a result of this report.

5. Recommendation

5.1 Audit Committee is asked to note the content of the latest Internal Audit Progress Report, position with the internal audit plan, and consider whether any of the following options are relevant :-

- Report and make recommendations to the Executive if they feel it appropriate.
- Refer any matter under review they feel appropriate to the relevant Portfolio Holder, Scrutiny Chair or Committee.
- Seek responses from Officers on matters arising (written or verbal) to be submitted to the next Audit Committee on any of the issues raised within this report or associated Appendices. Members may further wish to request the presence of the relevant Managers at the meeting to explain performance / specific issues.
- Accept the report and continue to monitor arrangements.

Key Decision No

Do the Exempt Information Categories Apply? No

Call in and Urgency: Is the decision one to which Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply? No

How many appendices does the report contain? One

List of Background Papers:

Lead Officer:

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