



Governance Scrutiny Group

Tuesday, 29 September 2020

Internal Audit Progress Report - 5 Month Update

Report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. The attached report has been prepared by the Council's internal auditors BDO. It reflects the current progress made against the annual Internal Audit programme along with any significant recommendations with regard to the audits completed during this period.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Governance Scrutiny Group notes the progress made so far this year against the Internal Audit programme.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1. To conform to best practice and Public Sector Internal Audit Standards, and to give assurance to the Governance Scrutiny Group regarding the Council's internal control environment.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1. The Internal Audit Plan for 2020/21 was approved by the Corporate Governance Group at its meeting on 6 February 2020 and includes 10 planned reviews. Due to the impact of Covid-19 on workloads, progress at the start of the year was slower than anticipated but is now back on track. The attached report highlights the completion and issuing of one report: Budget Management and Reporting; The Annual Fraud Report was covered at the last Governance Group meeting in July. In terms of findings:

- 20% of the annual Internal Audit programme has been completed so far this year
- The audit of Budget Management and Reporting returned a finding of Substantial Assurance with two low level priority recommendations where management actions have been agreed.

5. Risks and Uncertainties

- 5.1. If recommendations are not acted upon there is a risk internal controls are weakened and the risk materialises.

6. Implications

6.1. Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications to the report. Indirectly, a better internal control environment suggests risk has reduced and could result in a reduced audit workload and therefore cost.

6.2. Legal Implications

The recommendation supports good risk management, internal controls and compliance with legislation and regulations relating to Local Authority decision making and process.

6.3. Equalities Implications

There are no equalities implications identified for this report

6.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications

There are no such implications.

7. Link to Corporate Priorities

Quality of Life	
Efficient Services	Undertaking a programme of internal audit ensures that proper and efficient services are delivered by the Council.
Sustainable Growth	
The Environment	

8. Recommendations

It is RECOMMENDED that the Governance Scrutiny Group notes the progress made so far this year against the Internal Audit programme.

For more information contact:	Peter Linfield Executive Manager - Finance and Corporate Services Tel: 0115 9148439 plinfield@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers available for Inspection:	

List of appendices:	Appendix A – Internal Audit Progress Report
----------------------------	---