

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

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| Decision Maker: | Audit Committee |
| Date: | 28 September 2017 |
| Title: | Internal Audit Progress Report (September 2017) |
| Report From: | Director of Corporate Resources – Corporate Services |

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1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to provide the Audit Committee with an overview of internal audit activity against assurance work completed in accordance with the approved audit plan and to provide an overview of the status of 'live' reports

2. Contextual information

2.1. Under the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015, the Council is responsible for:

- ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of functions and includes arrangements for the management of risk; and
- undertaking an effective internal audit to evaluate the effectiveness of its risk management, control and governance processes, taking into account public sector internal auditing standards and guidance.

2.1. In accordance with proper internal audit practices (Public Sector Internal Audit Standards), the Chief Internal Auditor is required to provide a written status report to the Audit Committee, summarising:

- The status of 'live' internal audit reports;
- an update on progress against the annual audit plan;
- a summary of internal audit performance, planning and resourcing issues; and
- a summary a significant issues that impact on the Chief Internal Auditor's annual opinion

2.2. Appendix 1 summarises the activities of internal audit for the period up to September 2017.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1. That Audit Committee notes the Internal Audit Progress report for the period to September 2017 as attached.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Strategic Plan**

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| Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity: | no |
| People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives: | no |
| People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment: | no |
| People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong and inclusive communities: | no |
| OR | |
| This proposal does not link to the Corporate Strategy but, nevertheless, requires a decision because: 'Board' approval of the Internal Audit Plan, in accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 and the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards | |

Other Significant Links

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| Links to previous Member decisions: | |
| <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u> |
| Internal Audit Charter | 22 June 2017 |
| Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives | |
| <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u> |
| | |

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

| | |
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| <u>Document</u> | <u>Location</u> |
| None | |

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equality Duty

1.1. The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;

Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;

Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;

Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;

Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

1.2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

Equality objectives are not considered to be adversely affected by the proposals within this report.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. The proposals in this report are not considered to have any direct impact on the prevention of crime, however internal audit work is planned to ensure that controls are in place to minimise the risk of fraud and corruption against the County Council.

3. Climate Change:

How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? *No specific changes*

How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? *No specific proposals affecting adaptation to climate change*