

AUDIT COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 2023

Report of the Head of Governance & Human Resources

Part A

2023/24 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN

Purpose of Report

To present the proposed Internal Audit Annual Plan for 2023/24

Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to approve the proposed audit plan as set out in the appendix.

Reason

To ensure that Internal Audit resources are effectively utilised.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 state (Regulation 5 (1)) that the relevant authority must undertake an effective internal audit to evaluate the effectiveness of its risk management, control and governance processes, taking into account the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and any appropriate guidance.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions

Progress against the plan will be reported to Committee on a quarterly basis.

Report Implications

Financial Implications

None

Risk Management

The risks associated with the decision the Committee is asked to make and proposed actions to mitigate those risks are set out in the table below.

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Overall Risk	Risk Management Actions Planned
Failure to approve a satisfactory audit plan could lead to	Unlikely (2)	Serious (3)	Moderate (6)	Audit plans are developed using a risk-based methodology and

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Overall Risk	Risk Management Actions Planned
ineffective targeting of audit resources.				in consultation with Corporate and Senior Management Teams (the approach as required by the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards).

Equality and Diversity

None identified

Climate Change and Carbon Impact

None identified

Crime and Disorder

None identified

Publicity Arrangements

Not applicable

Consultations

Both the Senior Leadership Team and the Corporate Leadership Team have been consulted during the development of this plan

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Caring for the Environment	No
Healthy Communities	No
A Thriving Economy	No
Your Council	Yes

Background Papers:

Public Sector Internal Audit Standards

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Part B

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) require that the Chief Audit Executive (CAE) establishes a risk-based audit plan to determine the priorities of the internal audit activity, consistent with the organisation's goals. The Chief Audit Executive for Charnwood Borough Council is the Shared Service Audit Manager.
- 1.2. The PSIAS also require that the risk-based plan must consider both the requirement to produce an annual Head of Internal Audit opinion to support the Annual Governance Statement and the assurance framework.
- 1.3. The Internal Audit Service will be delivered and developed as set out in the Internal Audit Charter
- 1.4. The audit plan is required to be reviewed and approved by both senior management and the 'Board'. As set out in the Internal Audit Charter, the role of the 'Board' is fulfilled by the Audit Committee. The Senior Leadership Team reviewed and approved the audit plan on the 5 April 2023.
- 1.5. Progress against the approved audit plan, together with any amendments required during the year, will be reported to the Audit Committee quarterly through the year.

2. INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2023/24

- 2.1. The proposed Audit Plan for 2023/24 is attached as an Appendix. The Audit Plan has been prepared following a risk-based assessment of the Council's activities and consultation with the Senior Leadership Team and Corporate Leadership Team, to identify the Council's key risks.
- 2.2. Each audit assignment included in the Plan has been aligned to the Strategic Risk Register where appropriate and to the priority area for the Council.
- 2.3. The specialist resources for technical Information Technology (IT) audits have been externally procured. Further details are recorded within the proposed plan.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - 2023/24 Internal Audit Plan