

## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

---

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee
<b>DATE</b>	26 June 2024
<b>EXEMPT</b>	No
<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b>	No
<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	Internal Audit Update Report
<b>REPORT NUMBER</b>	IA/24/009
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	N/A
<b>CHIEF OFFICER</b>	Jamie Dale, Chief Internal Auditor
<b>REPORT OFFICER</b>	Jamie Dale, Chief Internal Auditor
<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>	2.3

---

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an update on Internal Audit's work since the last update. Details are provided of the progress against the approved Internal Audit plans, audit recommendations follow up, and other relevant matters for the Committee to be aware of.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 2.1 Note the progress of the Internal Audit Plan;
- 2.2 Note the progress that management has made with implementing recommendations agreed in Internal Audit reports;

### 3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 Internal Audit's primary role is to provide independent and objective assurance on the Council's risk management, control and governance processes. This requires a continuous rolling review and appraisal of the internal controls of the Council involving the examination and evaluation of the adequacy of systems of risk management, control and governance, making recommendations for improvement where appropriate. Reports are produced relating to

each audit assignment and summaries of these are provided to the Audit Committee.

**4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

**5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

**6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

**7. RISK**

7.1 The assessment of risk contained within the table below is to be consistent with the Council’s Risk Appetite Statement.

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H)  *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
<b>Strategic Risk</b>	Ability of the Council to meet its strategic objectives	The Internal Audit process considers strategic risks involved in the areas subject to review. Any risk implications identified through the Internal Audit process are detailed in the resultant Internal Audit reports. Recommendations, consistent with the Council’s Risk Appetite Statement, are made to address the identified risks and Internal Audit follows up progress with implementing those	M	Yes

		that are agreed with management. Those not implemented by their agreed due date are detailed in the attached appendices.		
<b>Compliance</b>	Council does not comply with relevant internal policies and procedures and external guidance.	The Internal Audit process considers compliance risks involved in the areas subject to review. Any risk implications identified through the Internal Audit process are detailed in the resultant Internal Audit reports. Recommendations, consistent with the Council's Risk Appetite Statement, are made to address the identified risks and Internal Audit follows up progress with implementing those that are agreed with management. Those not implemented by their agreed due date are detailed in the attached appendices.	L	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Operational</b>	Failure of the Council to deliver agreed services.	The Internal Audit process considers operational risks involved in the areas subject to review. Any risk implications identified through the Internal Audit process are detailed in the resultant Internal Audit reports. Recommendations, consistent with the Council's Risk Appetite Statement, are made to address the identified risks and Internal Audit follows	L	<b>Yes</b>

		up progress with implementing those that are agreed with management. Those not implemented by their agreed due date are detailed in the attached appendices.		
<b>Financial</b>	Financial failure of the Council, with risks also to credit rating.	The Internal Audit process considers financial risks involved in the areas subject to review. Any risk implications identified through the Internal Audit process are detailed in the resultant Internal Audit reports. Recommendations, consistent with the Council's Risk Appetite Statement, are made to address the identified risks and Internal Audit follows up progress with implementing those that are agreed with management. Those not implemented by their agreed due date are detailed in the attached appendices.	L	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Reputational</b>	Impact of performance or financial risk on reputation of ACC.	The Internal Audit process considers reputational risks involved in the areas subject to review. Any risk implications identified through the Internal Audit process are detailed in the resultant Internal Audit reports. Recommendations, consistent with the Council's Risk Appetite Statement, are made to address the	L	<b>Yes</b>

		identified risks and Internal Audit follows up progress with implementing those that are agreed with management. Those not implemented by their agreed due date are detailed in the attached appendices.		
<b>Environment / Climate</b>	Service delivery impacting negatively on City net zero targets.	The Internal Audit process considers environmental/climate risks involved in the areas subject to review. Any risk implications identified through the Internal Audit process are detailed in the resultant Internal Audit reports. Recommendations, consistent with the Council's Risk Appetite Statement, are made to address the identified risks and Internal Audit follows up progress with implementing those that are agreed with management. Those not implemented by their agreed due date are detailed in the attached appendices.	L	<b>Yes</b>

**8. OUTCOMES**

- 8.1 The proposals in this report have no impact on the Council Delivery Plan.
- 8.2 However, Internal Audit plays a key role in providing assurance over, and helping to improve, the Council's framework of governance, risk management and control. These arrangements, put in place by the Council, help ensure that the Council achieves its strategic objectives in a well-managed and controlled environment.

**9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>Impact Assessment</b>	An assessment is not required because the reason for this report is to report Internal Audit's progress to Committee. As a result, there will be no differential impact, as a result of the proposals in this report, on people with protected characteristics.
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>	Not required

**10. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

10.1 There are no relevant background papers related directly to this report.

**11. APPENDICES**

11.1 Appendix A – Internal Audit Update Report

**12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS**

<b>Name</b>	Jamie Dale
<b>Title</b>	Chief Internal Auditor
<b>Email Address</b>	<a href="mailto:Jamie.Dale@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">Jamie.Dale@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>Tel</b>	(01467) 530 988