

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee
DATE	12 February 2024
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Internal Audit Update Report
REPORT NUMBER	IA/24/001
DIRECTOR	N/A
CHIEF OFFICER	Jamie Dale, Chief Internal Auditor
REPORT OFFICER	Jamie Dale, Chief Internal Auditor
TERMS OF REFERENCE	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?
Strategic Risk	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.		
Compliance	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	Yes
Operational	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	Yes

		up progress with implementing those that are agreed with management. Those not implemented by their agreed due date are detailed in the attached appendices.		
Financial	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	Yes
Reputational	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	Yes

		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.		
Environment / Climate	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	Yes

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

Assessment	Outcome
Impact Assessment	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.
Data Protection Impact Assessment	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

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