

## Tracking of Internal Audit Recommendations

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#### **Purpose of this report:**

This report summarises the high priority recommendations arising from Internal Audit reports and sets out the progress made in their implementation.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is asked to:

1. Consider and comment on the updates, as presented.

#### **Overview and Scrutiny Comments/Recommendations**

1. This report is not scheduled to be considered by Overview and Scrutiny, as this is the responsibility of the Audit Committee.

#### **Background**

2. One of the purposes of the Audit Committee is to provide independent assurance on the adequacy of the risk management framework and the associated control environment.
3. To further strengthen the Audit Committee's role in monitoring the internal control environment within the Council, Internal Audit has developed a system for monitoring and reporting progress against high priority recommendations arising from internal audit inspections.
4. This paper presents the regular summary of high priority recommendations made to date, along with the progress made against implementation of those recommendations, as at the end of March 2018.

## **Tracking High Priority Recommendations**

5. There are 2 'Housing Tenancy Management' recommendations and the 'Assets Compliance' recommendation that remain outstanding. Details are provided at Appendix A.
6. Wherever possible evidence has been obtained to verify the implementation of recommendations. However, in some instances, verbal assurance has been obtained. Where this is the case, further evidence will be obtained to support the assurances given.
7. Progress will continue to be monitored. The follow up of audit recommendations forms an integral part of the fundamental system audit reviews.

## **Future Monitoring**

8. Officers responsible for the implementation of recommendations will be contacted regularly to provide updates on progress made. Evidence will be required to support progress made. Where recommendations are still being implemented these will continue to be monitored.

## **Council Priorities**

9. An effective internal audit function will indirectly contribute to all of the Council's priorities.

## **Corporate Implications**

### **Legal Implications**

10. None directly from this report.

### **Financial Implications**

11. Although there are no direct financial risks from the issues identified in the report, the outcome of implementing audit recommendations is for the Council to enhance internal control, and better manage its risks, thereby increasing protection from adverse events.

### **Equalities Implications**

12. None directly from this report.

## **Conclusion and next Steps**

13. Further work is required to ensure that the outstanding recommendations are implemented and to monitor additional recommendations made during the year.
14. This continuous tracking and reporting of progress on Internal Audit inspections to the Audit Committee ensures that the Committee has the means to monitor how effectively the high priority recommendations have been implemented.

## **Appendices**

Appendix A – Details of outstanding High Priority recommendations that remain outstanding

Appendix B – Summary of High Priority Internal Audit recommendations as at mid March 2018

## **Background Papers**

None.