

AUDIT & ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

27 APRIL 2022

ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 The Internal Audit Plan (Appendix A) sets out the proposed work of Internal Audit for 2022/23.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 The Internal Audit plan has been developed to demonstrate how assurance can be given on:

- Financial Governance
- Governance and Risk
- Critical Activities
- Project Assurance
- ICT
- Key Controls
- Combined Assurance
- Consultancy Assurance

2.2 Assurance Lincolnshire have developed a combined assurance model for the Council which is a record of assurances against critical activities and risks. It provides an overview of assurance provided across the whole Council – not just those from Internal Audit – making it possible to identify where assurances are present, their source, and where there are potential assurance 'gaps'.

2.3 The internal audit plan has been developed with reference to the combined assurance model as well as previous audit work, audit risk assessment, discussions with senior management, strategic and emerging risks.

2.4 Appendix A sets out in detail Assurance Lincolnshire's approach and what is intended to be reviewed in 2022/23. The plan set out is a 'flexible plan' which is subject to change as the year progresses to reflect the current risk environment. Any changes to the plan during the year will be agreed with the Business Manager Financial Services and subsequently notified to the Audit and Governance Committee.

3.0 Proposals

3.1 The Audit and Accounts Committee review and comment on the Internal Audit plan.

4.0 Equalities Implications

4.1 None

5.0 Community Plan- alignment to objectives

5.1 The Internal Audit Plan underpins the delivery of the Community Plan. Through assurance gained from Internal Audit, Council can be satisfied that internal processes are working in a controlled manner, achieving the aims and objectives set out within the Community Plan.

6.0 Financial Implications (FIN22-23/689)

6.1 As suggested within the Internal Audit Plan, the proposed total cost of the internal audit service for the 2022/23 financial year is £99,750. This is the total cost and includes charges that relate to bodies that are recharged for this service such as the Gilstrap Charity and Mansfield Crematorium. There is also a charge to the HRA in relation to audits that are predominantly HRA related.

6.2 The budget as approved at Council on the 8th March 2022 agreed a budget of £95,290 which is £4,460 short of the proposed cost. The reason for the difference relates to an increase in day rate compared with the cost for the 2021/22 financial year. This shortfall can be contained within existing budgets within the overall Financial Services Business Unit.

7.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

7.1 **That the Audit and Accounts Committee approve the Internal Audit Plan.**

Background Papers

Nil.

For further information please contact Lucy Pledge on 01522 553692.

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