



Report to: Audit & Governance Committee Meeting 14 June 2023

Director or Business Manager Lead: Nick Wilson, Business Manager – Financial Services

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Report Summary	
<b>Report Title</b>	Annual Internal Audit Report
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To provide a summary of Internal Audit work undertaken during 2022/23 and to support the Annual Governance Statement by providing an opinion on the organisation’s governance, risk, financial and internal control environment.
<b>Recommendations</b>	That the Audit & Governance Committee consider and comment upon the annual internal audit report and note its content.
<b>Reason for Recommendation</b>	In order to understand the internal audit work undertaken throughout the 2022/23 financial year which will assist in supporting the Annual Governance Statement

## 1.0 Background

### 1.1 The Annual Internal Audit Report:-

- Includes an opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the organisation’s governance, risk, financial and internal control environments.
- Discloses any qualifications to that opinion, together with the reasons for the qualification.
- Summarises audit work undertaken, including reliance placed on the work of other assurance bodies where applicable.
- Draws attention to any issues that are particularly relevant to the Annual Governance Statement.
- Summarises the performance of the internal audit function against its key performance measures.
- Comments on compliance with standards.

- 1.2 Whilst we cannot provide absolute assurance on the governance, risk, financial and internal control environments, the opinion is based upon the work undertaken as part of the agreed internal audit plan and assurance intelligence gathered from across the Councils assurance framework.
- 1.3 The opinion on the areas of Financial control and Risk remain performing well, and the opinion on Governance remains performing adequately (all three consistent with the 2021/22 financial year). The opinion on Internal Control has improved from performing adequately to performing well.
- 1.4 The opinion should be considered as part of the process to prepare the Annual Governance Statement by the Audit and Accounts Committee and relevant Council officers.

## **2.0 Proposals**

- 2.1 To receive and comment upon the Annual Internal Audit Report 2022/23 and note its content.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

NIL