

To: Audit & Governance Committee

Date: 30TH June 2011

Item No:

Report of: Head of Finance

Title of Report: Progress on Implementation of Audit Recommendations

Summary and Recommendations

Purpose of report: To report progress on the implementation of internal and external audit recommendations.

Report Approved by:

Finance: Nigel Kennedy

Legal: Jeremy Thomas

Policy Framework: Financial stability

Recommendation(s):

The Audit and Governance Committee is asked to note progress with the recommendations as listed in Appendix A and B.

Appendix A – Internal Audit recommendation tracker

Appendix B – External Audit recommendation tracker

Summary

1. The outcomes of all internal audit reports are reported to this Committee. Each report includes recommendations: a summary of these and updated management responses are provided in Appendix A.
2. External audit recommendations are also tracked and updated management responses are included as Appendix B

Recommendation tracking

3. Each recommendation is marked with a % complete which correlates to a red/amber/green rating depending on their percentage complete. Up to 25% complete are marked red, between 25% and 75% complete are amber and over 75% complete are green.
4. Any recommendations that are 100% complete have been removed from the tracker.

External Audit Recommendations

5. There are 2 recommendations that are showing as red on the external audit recommendation tracker. They relate to the closedown process for 2009/10, and will be taken into account in preparing the 2010/11 accounts.

Internal Audit recommendations

6. There have been two internal audit reports finalised since the last meeting and these recommendations have been added to the tracker, these reports are:
 - Budgetary Control – Given High Assurance
 - Debtors Audit - Limited Assurance
7. There are 11 red recommendations on the internal audit recommendation tracker, none of which are high risk recommendations. There are no areas of concern over any of the outstanding recommendations.
8. Seven of the recommendations will be undertaken under the Corporate Services Modernisation Programme of work, including:
 - Implementing improvements in ICT systems, training and guidance notes currently being undertaken by the Councils new Revenues Manager.
 - Implementing improvements in budget monitoring
 - Implementing procure to pay for the ordering and payment of goods and services
 - Implementation of Direct Debits for debt recovery
- 10 One of the recommendations relates to a asset security policy, some work has already commenced on town hall security in relation to this item
- 11 One of the recommendations relates to Customer Services, where there are currently limited resources to carry out these recommendations .
- 12 Two of the recommendations relate to risk management activity one of which relates to guidance notes which will be refreshed off the back of the Strategy refresh including encompassing the changes in respect of monitoring through CORVU (the Council's performance management software).

Financial Implications

9. This report is for noting and therefore there are no financial implications directly arising from the recommendations in the report

Legal Implications

10. There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

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Background papers: None