

South Lakeland District Council
Audit Committee
Tuesday, 9 April 2019
Internal Audit Progress Report 2018/19

Portfolio:	Not applicable
Report from:	Assistant Director Resources (Section 151 Officer)
Report Author:	Peter Harrison – Internal Audit Manager (Director, TIAA Ltd)
Wards:	Corporate Issue
Forward Plan:	Not applicable

1.0 Expected Outcome

1.1 This report provides a summary of the progress against the Internal Audit Annual Plan to date in 2018/19. It provides the Committee with assurance through the individual internal audit reports for work carried out to date.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 Members of the Audit Committee are asked to note:

- The progress achieved in 2018/19 in delivering the Audit Plan and the outcomes of completed audit reviews set out in **Appendix 1**.
- The attached audit reports at **Appendix 2**.
- The progress achieved in implementing recommendations from previous internal audit reviews set out in **Appendix 3**.

3.0 Background and Proposals

3.1 All local authorities must make proper provision for internal audit in line with the 1972 Local Government Act. The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require that the Council undertakes an effective Internal Audit to evaluate the effectiveness of its risk management, internal control and governance processes, taking into account the Public Sector Internal Auditing Standards (PSIAS).

3.2 Internal Audit is responsible for providing independent assurance to the Council's senior management and to the Audit Committee on the systems of governance, risk management and internal control.

3.3 It is management's responsibility to establish and maintain internal control systems and to ensure that resources are properly applied, risks appropriately managed and that outcomes are achieved. Management is responsible for the system of internal control and should set in place policies and procedures to ensure that controls are operating effectively.

4.0 Progress against the 2018/19 Internal Audit Plan

4.1 The Internal Audit Plan was approved by the Committee in April 2018.

4.2 The progress report at Appendix 1 provides the Committee with a summary of the position as at 25th March 2019. The executive summaries for each completed review are included at Appendix 2.

5.0 Audit reports completed in the period

5.1 Appendix 2 contains the executive summaries of the seven audit report completed in the period:

- Use of Agency, Interim and Casual Workers;
- Health & Safety – Property Risks;
- Cyber Security;
- Customer Connect;
- Homelessness;
- Information Governance; and
- Housing Benefit.

6.0 Follow up of internal audit recommendations

6.1 The latest position relating to the implementation of outstanding recommendations is set out in Appendix 3.

7.0 Alternative Options

7.1 There are no alternative options; the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require that the Council undertakes an effective Internal Audit to evaluate the effectiveness of its risk management, internal control and governance processes, taking into account the Public Sector Internal Auditing Standards (PSIAS).

8.0 Links to Council Priorities

8.1 Internal Audit provides independent assurance on the Council's arrangements for governance, risk management and internal control in support of delivery of the Council's strategic priorities.

9.0 Implications

Financial, Resources and Procurement

9.1 There are no direct financial implications to this report.

Human Resources

9.2 There are no direct staffing implications arising from this report.

Legal

9.3 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Health, Social, Economic and Environmental

9.4 Have you completed a Health, Social, Economic and Environmental Impact Assessment? No

9.5 If you have not completed an Impact Assessment, please explain your reasons: this report relates to a review of corporate governance and is considered to have no Health, Social, Economic and Environmental impacts.

Equality and Diversity

9.7 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis? No

- 9.8 If you have not completed an Impact Assessment, please explain your reasons: this report relates to a review of corporate governance and is considered to have no Equality and Diversity impacts.

Risk

Risk	Consequence	Controls required
The Council does not comply with legislative requirements as laid out under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.	The Council does not receive adequate assurance over the internal control environment.	Regular progress reporting to senior management and Audit Committee each quarter.

Contact Officer

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Appendices Attached to this Report

Appendix No.	Name of Appendix
1	Internal Audit Progress Report
2	Audit Reports – Executive Summaries 2a. Use of Agency, Interim and Casual Workers; 2b. Health & Safety – Property Risks; 2c. Cyber Security; 2d. Customer Connect; 2e. Homelessness; 2f. Information Governance; and 2g. Housing Benefit.
3	Follow Up Report

Background Documents Available

Name of Background document	Where it is available
Not applicable	Not Applicable

Tracking Information

Signed off by	Date sent
Legal Services	N/A
Section 151 Officer	25/03/2019
Monitoring Officer	N/A
SMT	N/A

Circulated to	Date sent
Assistant Director	25/03/2019
Human Resources Manager	N/A
Communications Team	N/A
Leader	N/A
Committee Chairman	N/A
Portfolio Holder	N/A

Circulated to	Date sent
Ward Councillor(s)	N/A
Committee	N/A
Executive (Cabinet)	N/A
Council	N/A