

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Audit Committee
Date:	05 February 2015
Title:	Internal Audit Progress Report - December 2014
Reference:	6480
Report From:	Director of Corporate Resources – Corporate Services

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1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to provide the Audit Committee with an overview of internal audit activity against assurance work completed in accordance with the approved audit plan and to provide an overview of the status of 'live' reports.

2. Contextual information

2.1. Under the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011, the Council is responsible for:

- ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of functions and includes arrangements for the management of risk; and
- undertaking an adequate and effective internal audit of its accounting records and of its system of internal control in accordance with the proper practices in relation to internal control.

2.2. In accordance with proper internal audit practices (Public Sector Internal Audit Standards), the Chief Internal Auditor is required to provide a written status report to the Audit Committee, summarising:

- The status of 'live' internal audit reports;
- an update on progress against the annual audit plan;
- a summary of internal audit performance, planning and resourcing issues; and
- a summary a significant issues that impact on the Chief Internal Auditor's annual opinion

2.3. Appendix 1 summarises the activities of internal audit for the period up to December 2014.

3. Recommendation

3.1. That Audit Committee notes the Internal Audit Progress report for the period to December 2014 as attached.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	no
Maximising well-being:	no
Enhancing our quality of place:	no
OR	
This proposal does not link to the Corporate Strategy but, nevertheless, requires a decision because:	
In accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011 and proper internal audit practices (Public Sector Internal Audit Standards), the Chief Internal Auditor is required to provide a written status report to the Audit Committee	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u> Internal Audit Charter	<u>Reference</u> 4944	<u>Date</u> 27 Jun 2013
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u> Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011	<u>Date</u>	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equality Duty

1.1. The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- a) The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- c) Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

1.2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

Equality objectives are not considered to be adversely affected by the proposals within this report.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. The proposals in this report are not considered to have any direct impact on the prevention of crime, however internal audit work is planned to ensure that controls are in place to minimise the risk of fraud and corruption against the County Council.

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

No specific changes

- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

No specific proposals affecting adaptation to climate change