

Audit Committee

Meeting Date – 26th October 2023



Progress Report of the 2023-24 Internal Audit Plan

Executive Member(s): Liz Leyshon – Lead Member for Resources and Performance

Lead Officer: Nicola Hix – Service Director Finance and Procurement

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Summary / Link to Council Plan

1. The Internal Audit function plays a central role in corporate governance by providing assurance to the Audit Committee, looking over governance, risk, and internal controls and checking on the probity of the organisation.
2. The 2023-24 Annual Internal Audit Plan is to provide independent and objective assurance on SC's Internal Control Environment. This work will support the Annual Governance Statement.
3. Delivery of the corporate objectives requires strong governance and risk management and effective internal controls. The Internal Audit Plan seeks to provide independent and objective assurance on matters relating to governance, risk and control processes that ultimately ensures delivery of statutory services and corporate aims and objectives.

Issue for Consideration / Recommendations

4. Members of the Audit Committee are asked to note the position of the 2023-24 Internal Audit Plan (See Attached Appendix – SWAP Report).

Financial and Risk Implications

5. Any large organisation needs to have well-established and systematic risk management framework in place to identify and mitigate the risks it may face. SC has a risk management framework, and within that, individual internal audit reports deal with the specific risk issues that arise from the findings. These are translated into mitigating actions and timetable for management to implement. Areas of specific weakness and risk are flagged within the attached SWAP Internal Audit Progress Report 2023-24.

6. There are no specific financial issues relating to this report.

Legal Implications

7. There are no specific legal issues relating to this report.

Background Papers

8. SWAP Internal Audit Plan 2023-24 as reported SC Audit Committee April 2023

Appendices

Appendix A – SWAP Internal Audit Progress Report 2023-24