

AUDITS COMPLETED AND REPORTS ISSUED

The following categories of opinion were used for audit reports issued in 2011/12¹.

Opinion	Level of Assurance
Very Good	Overall, very good management of risk. An effective control environment appears to be in operation.
Good	Overall, good management of risk with few weaknesses identified. An effective control environment is in operation but there is scope for further improvement in the areas identified.
Satisfactory	Overall, satisfactory management of risk with a number of weaknesses identified. An acceptable control environment is in operation but there are a number of improvements that could be made.
Unsatisfactory	Overall, poor management of risk with significant control weaknesses in key areas and major improvements required before an effective control environment will be in operation.
Unsound	Overall, there is a fundamental failure in control and risks are not being effectively managed. A number of key areas require substantial improvement to protect the system from error and abuse.

Where weaknesses in control were identified, recommendations made were classified as essential, important, or advisory.

¹ The opinions used, and classification of recommendations will be reviewed, following the transfer of internal audit to Veritau North Yorkshire Limited in April 2012.

Draft Reports Issued

There are 2 internal audit reports currently in draft. These reports are with management for consideration and comments. Once the reports have been finalised, details of the key findings and issues will be reported to this committee. The draft reports are categorised as follows:

Opinion	Number
"Very Good"	0
"Good"	1
"Satisfactory"	1
"Unsatisfactory"	0
"Unsound"	0
"Not given"	0

Final Reports Issued

The table below shows all audit reports finalised in 2011/12.

Audit	Date Of Final Report	Opinion	Number of Recommendations		Work done / significant weaknesses / issues identified
			Total	Essential	
Cultural Grants	03/06/11	Satisfactory	2	0	A review of procedures and controls. There are clear criteria for issuing grants which were well documented, and closely adhered to.
Creditors	14/06/11	Satisfactory	8	0	Overview of controls and systems. No significant concerns were identified. Staff members appear to have a good understanding of the risks.

Audit	Date Of Final Report	Opinion	Number of Recommendations		Work done / significant weaknesses / issues identified
			Total	Essential	
Debtors	14/06/11	Good	4	0	Testing of the key controls to ensure that the Council can place reliance on the soundness of the systems associated with the debtors function. No significant concerns were identified.
General Ledger	14/06/11	Good	1	0	A review of the procedures and testing of controls associated with the main financial system. This included input (direct and through feeder systems), budgetary control, and system security. No significant issues were found.
Recycling	14/07/11	Satisfactory	5	0	A review of systems and controls relating to Recycling. No significant issues were found.
Community Safety/Safer Ryedale	21/09/11	Satisfactory	5	2	A review of the systems associated with Community Safety. A number of minor issues were raised. The two essential recommendations relate to the timeliness of invoices raised and delays in reconciling expenditure.
Dog Enforcement	02/12/11	Satisfactory	5	0	A review of procedures in place surrounding the Dog Warden service. The audit looked at adherence to legislation, income/expenditure and data protection.
Licensing Act	05/12/11	Good	5	0	Key controls were tested to ensure that the Council could place reliance on the soundness of the systems associated with Licensing Act requirements. A number of minor recommendations were made and agreed.

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			Total	Essential	
Pollution Control	05/12/11	Good	2	0	A review of systems and controls around monitoring pollution. A number of minor recommendations were made relating to procedures and data storage.
Car Parking	31/12/11	Satisfactory	27	3	A review key controls relating to Car Parking. Issues were identified in a number of areas including lone working, VAT calculations and recording of permit sales. All of the recommendations made were agreed and the majority were implemented shortly after issuing the report.
Payroll	19/01/12	Good	2	0	A review of the procedures and systems relating to payroll. The last audit in 2010/11 identified that controls were good. While this continues to be the case, the two recommendations made following the 2010/11 audit remained outstanding in 2011/12. These relate to the lack of a current service level agreement with the payroll provider, and published timetables for payroll processing being out of date.
Development Control	27/04/12	Good	5	2	A review of the procedures and controls associated with Development Control. Two essential recommendations were made relating to records of enforcement activity and the timeliness of enforcement action.