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| REPORT TO: | OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE |
| DATE: | 17 APRIL 2019 |
| REPORT OF THE: | CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER (s151) - ANTON HODGE |
| TITLE OF REPORT: | THIRD INTERNAL AUDIT AND COUNTER FRAUD PROGRESS REPORTS 2018/19 |
| WARDS AFFECTED: | ALL |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The report summarises the progress made in delivering internal audit and counter fraud work for 2018/19.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 It is recommended the Committee note the work undertaken by internal audit and the counter fraud team in the year to date.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 To enable the Committee to fulfil its responsibility for considering the outcome of internal audit and counter fraud work.

4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

- 4.1 The Council will fail to comply with proper practice requirements for internal audit and the Council's Audit Charter if the results of audit work are not considered by an appropriate Committee.

5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The work on internal audit and counter fraud supports the council's overall aims and priorities by promoting probity, integrity and honesty and by helping support the council to become a more effective organisation.
- 5.2 The work of internal audit is governed by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and relevant professional standards. These include the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) and Cipfa guidance on the application of those standards in Local Government. In accordance with the standards, the Head of Internal Audit is required to report on the results of audit work undertaken.

6.0 REPORT DETAILS

- 6.1 In the period between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2019 we have completed six pieces of work. Two reports on Revenue Budgeting and Licensing have been finalised since the last committee. Three draft reports on the Transparency Code, Safeguarding and a second Data Protection and Security visit have also been issued. All of the remaining work in the plan is underway and is on target to be completed to draft report stage by 30 April 2019 (the target date for completion of 2018/19 audits). Further details of work completed and the findings of the finalised audits are included in the report at annex 1.
- 6.2 Audit planning is an ongoing process. PSIAS requires that the Head of Internal Audit must 'review and adjust the plan, as necessary, in response to changes in the organisation's business, risks, operations, programmes, systems, and controls'. A small update to the plan is set out in annex 1, to provide additional time to undertake work required on the Safeguarding audit. The total number of audit days remains unchanged.
- 6.3 Counter fraud work has been undertaken in accordance with the approved plan. Annex 2 provides a summary of the work undertaken in 2018/19 and outcomes to 15 March 2019.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The following implications have been identified:
- a) Financial
None
 - b) Legal
None
 - c) Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental, Crime & Disorder)
None

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Background Papers:
2018/19 Internal Audit and Counter Fraud Plans