

Report to Audit Committee

Subject: Internal Audit Progress Report

Date: 16 September 2025

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Purpose

To summarise the outcome of internal audit activity completed by the BDO Internal Audit Team for the period July to September 2025.

Recommendation(s):

THAT:

Members to note the progress of the delivery against the 2025/26 Internal Audit Plan, including the Executive Summary for the following audit reports: People Services and Risk Management.

1. Background

1.1 The Internal Audit Plan for 2025/26 was approved by the Audit Committee on 18 March 2025. The progress report provides a summary update of the work undertaken by BDO for 2025/26 and the schedule in which we anticipate presenting the final reports to the Audit Committee over 2025/26.

2. Proposal

- 2.1 Since the last Audit Committee meeting, two reports have been finalised (People Services and Risk Management). We have commenced scoping and fieldwork for audits that form part of the 2025/26 Internal Audit Plan and we anticipate that these will be presented to the Audit Committee over the course of the year.
- 2.2 The BDO Global Risk Landscape Report has been included as an appendix to our Progress Report. This sets out the results of BDO's research with over 500 risk leaders from various sectors to identify the key views and approaches taken to risk.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 The Internal Audit Plan is delivered within the approved budgets.

4. Legal Implications

4.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require authorities to undertake effective internal audit to evaluate the effectiveness of risk management, control and governance processes. This report provides the annual position of internal audit for 2025/26 and is provided to Committee in accordance with the Council's Constitution and delegations contained therein.

5. Equalities Implications

5.1 There are no equalities implications arising directly from these reports.

6. Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications

6.1 There are no carbon reduction/environmental sustainability implications arising directly from these reports.

7. Appendices

7.1 BDO Internal Audit Progress Report – September 2025. Appendix 1 – BDO Global Risk Landscape Report