

INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT

Corporate Director (Resources)

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To report Internal Audit progress to the Audit Committee.

2 Recommendations/for decision

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| 2.1 The Committee is asked to review and note the contents of the report. |
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3 Supporting information

- 3.1 Internal Audit reviews the internal control and assurance mechanisms of the Council and produces formal Audit reports with recommendations intended to improve controls. Internal Audit will regularly report on the progress of its work to the Committee.

4 Audit Work

- 4.1 A full list of the Final Audit Reports agreed and issued during the current financial year is attached at Appendix A to the Audit Tracker report.
- 4.2 There are a number of reviews in progress at the time of writing. These include a report on car loans and one on the service which provides advice to members of the public who may be homeless or in financial difficulties.
- 4.3 Work is about to start on reviews of AVDC's management of consultation with the public and preliminary work is being undertaken to prepare for the partnerships review postponed from last year.
- 4.4 The Audit Section has also provided advice on the controls needed in several areas, including handling of credit card information and proposed changes to financial systems following Vanguard reviews.
- 4.5 Preparatory work for the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) is now underway and information has been collated to confirm that AVDC is meeting the Data Protection requirements for the data which we are required to provide. There are several new data sets this year, including concessionary travel passes and residents car parking. Preliminary indications are that AVDC will also be required to provide Electoral Roll information this time. However, this will not be done without clearance from the Council's Monitoring Officer. Publicity about NFI is being co-ordinated by Communications and Marketing. Staff have already been informed of the exercise by an article in Byline.
- 4.6 Following the retirement of the Head of Finance at the beginning of August there has been a limited readjustment of responsibilities within the Audit Section. We have also been considering options for joint working with other Councils in the area. As a first step we have agreed to share staff for some Audits planned during October this year.

5 Reasons for Recommendation

5.1 One of the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government is that regular progress reports are provided to the Audit Committee.

6 Resource implications

6.1 None.

7 Response to Key Aims and Objectives

7.1 None.

Contact Officer
Background Documents

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