

Audit and Governance Committee



Date of meeting:	12 March 2024
Title of Report:	Internal audit Plan 2024/25
Lead Member:	Councillor Mark Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance)
Lead Strategic Director:	David Northey (Interim Service Director for Finance)
Author:	Louise Clapton, Audit Manager
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Your Reference:	AUD/LC
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) require the preparation of a risk-based plan of Internal Audit activity that is designed to support an annual opinion on the effectiveness of the systems of governance, risk management and internal control and is informed by the audit strategy, consultation with stakeholders and a dynamic assessment of risks.

Against a background of already stretched budgets and resources, the continuing uncertainty about resourcing from central government and the wider economic environment, the Council will inevitably continue to face significant challenges across 2024/25. To enable Internal Audit to be more agile and responsive to the rapidly changing risk profile, the 2024/25 Internal Audit Plan has been developed as a high-level thematic plan, underpinned by core assurance work. This will ensure that the focus of audit coverage is targeted according to the needs and priorities of the Council at that point in time thereby enabling us to add most value.

Recommendations and Reasons

- I. In accordance with the Constitution, the Audit and Governance Committee to:
 - Review and approve the 2022/23 Internal Audit Plan.

Alternative options considered and rejected

- I. None, as failure to maintain an adequate and effective system of internal audit would contravene the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The internal audit service assists the Council in delivering robust standards of public accountability and probity in the use of public funds and has a role in promoting high standards of service planning, performance monitoring and review throughout the organisation, together with ensuring compliance with the Council's statutory obligations.

Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: David Northey, Interim Service Director for Finance

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes

Date agreed: 22/02/2024

Cabinet Member approval: Cllr Lowry, approved via email.

Date approved: 04/03/2024