

Audit and Risk Committee

Date: Monday, 31 October 2022

Time: 10:00

Venue: Council Chamber

Address: Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QF

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

You have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in a matter to be discussed if it relates to something on your Register of Interests form. You must declare the interest and leave the room while the matter is dealt with.

You have a Personal Interest in a matter to be discussed if it affects

- your well being or financial position
- that of your family or close friends
- that of a club or society in which you have a management role
- that of another public body of which you are a member to a greater extent than others in your ward.

You must declare a personal interest but can speak and vote on the matter.

Whenever you declare an interest you must say why the interest arises, so that it can be included in the minutes.

3 <u>MINUTES</u> 4 - 10

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 25 July 2022.

4 MATTERS ARISING

To consider any matters arising from the above minutes.

5 INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY - PROGRESS AND FOLLOW UP 11 - 39

Report attached.

6 2020/21 AUDIT RESULTS REPORT

Report to follow.

7 2020/21 FINAL ACCOUNTS AUDIT

Report to follow.

8 WORK PROGRAMME

40 - 40

Report attached.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

To consider any other business as may be determined by the Chairman of the meeting as being of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.

10 **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**

In the event of the Committee wishing to exclude the public from the meeting, the following resolution will be moved:-

"That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12(A) of the said Act."



Audit and Risk Committee

Minutes

Monday, 25 July 2022 at 10:00

PRESENT:-

Councillor Grant (in the Chair); Councillors Freeman, Galer, Wainwright & A Wright.

Ms K Sly (Finance Director); Ms L Snow (Finance Manager), Ms K Bate (Corporate Risk Officer), Ms F Haywood (Head of Internal Audit) & Mrs C Webb (Democratic Services Officer).

Ms S Powell (EY).

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest given at the meeting.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2022 were confirmed.

4 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising for the above minutes which were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

5 WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received and considered the work programme.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee note the work programme.

6 PROGRESS REPORT ON INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY

The Committee received and considered the report from the Head of Internal Audit.

The Head of Internal Audit reported that this report is issued to assist the Authority in discharging its responsibilities in relation to the internal audit activity. The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards also require the Chief Audit Executive to report to the Audit Committee on the performance of internal audit relative to its plan, including any significant risk exposures and control issues. The frequency of reporting and the specific content are for the Authority to determine.

To comply with the above this report includes:-

- Any significant changes to the approved Audit Plan;
- Progress made in delivering the agreed audits for the year;
- Any significant outcomes arising from those audits; and
- Performance Indicator outcomes to date.

Councillor Wainwright referred to appendix 2 of the report, Contract Monitoring, and questioned whether this area had been thoroughly reviewed. Councillor Wainwright refereed to the issuing of a letter of intent, and not a signed contract, to Pentaco to instruct them to undertake the refurbishment of the Market Place. This project had subsequently exceeded the budget and he wanted to know why this had not been picked up earlier.

The Head of Internal Audit agreed to take this matter away and undertake further investigation and report back to the Committee.

Councillor Wainwright informed the Committee that he was aware that an independent audit had been commissioned but he thought that internal audit should be involved in this process.

The Chairman reported that he wished to see multi-layered contact monitoring checks carried out for all future multi-million pound projects, such as the Wintergardens, to

ensure that this did not happen again.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee note the progress made between 26 February 2022 to 14 July 2022 in relation to the delivery of the revised Annual Internal Audit Plan for 2021/22.

7 ANNUAL REPORT AND OPINION 2021-22

The Committee received and considered the report from the Head of Internal Audit.

The Head of Internal Audit reported on the internal audit activity undertaken during 2021/22 which provides an Annual Opinion concerning the Council's framework of governance, risk management and control, concludes on the effectiveness of internal audit and provides key information for the Annual Governance Statement.

The Chairman asked for confirmation that GYN had provided internal audit with all the information they required in a timely manner. The Head of Internal Audit informed the Committee that she had requested vast amounts of information from GYN.

Councillor Wainwright reported that at a recent meeting of the Housing & Neighbourhoods Committee, that our Housing Stock was non-complaint in several areas due to GYN.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee:-

- (i) Receive and consider the contents of the Annual Report and Opinion of the Head of
- Internal Audit for 2021/22.
- (ii) Note the opinion given in relation to the framework of governance, risk management and controls for the year ended 31 March 2022.
- (iii) Note that the opinions expressed together with any significant matters arising from the internal audit work and contained within this report should also be given due consideration when developing the Annual Governance Statement for 2021/22; and
- (iv) Note the conclusion of the review of the effectiveness of internal audit.

8 EY EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2020-21

The Committee received and considered the 2020/21 Audit Plan from Ernst & Young LLP.

Sappho Powell gave an overview of the salient areas of the Audit Plan which set out how EY intended to carry out their responsibilities as auditor. Its purpose was to

provide the

Audit and Risk Committee with a basis to review the proposed audit approach and scope for the 2020/21 audit in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the National Audit Office's 2020 Code of Audit Practice, the Statement of

Responsibilities issued by Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) Ltd, auditing standards and other professional requirements. It is also to ensure that the audit was aligned with the Committee's service expectations.

This Audit Plan summarised our initial assessment of the key risks driving the development of an effective audit for the Council, and outlined the planned audit strategy in response to those risks. The planning procedures remained ongoing; EY would inform the Audit and Risk Committee if there were any significant changes or revisions once we had completed these procedures and would provide an update to the next meeting of the Committee.

Councillor A Wright asked whether additional staff resources were required to undertake this work. Sappho Powell informed Councillor A Wright that staffing levels had been built into the budget.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee note the report.

9 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

The Committee received and considered the report from the Corporate Risk Officer.

The Corporate Risk Officer reported that the Corporate Risk Register was last reviewed by Executive Leadership Team in June 2022. The risk matrix showed how the risks identified in the Corporate Risk Register were distributed. There were currently 28 risks included on the Corporate Risk Register. The risks considered to be outside the Councils risk appetite had action plans in place to mitigate or reduce the risk. The risks that fell within the risk appetite or were deemed acceptable risks, have action plans in place to reduce the risk further.

Since presenting the Corporate Risk Register to the Audit and Risk Committee in December 2021, five new risks have been added to the register as follows:-

- (i) 12B. Capacity and Resilience of the Control Centre
- (ii) 17. BT upgrade network from analogue to digital & Caister exchange upgrade
- (iii) 25. Creation of Local Authority Subsidiary Company for Operational Services
- (iv) 26. Failure to reduce the Carbon footprint of the Council as an organisation / Failure to embrace sustainability and mitigate the impact of climate change; and (v) 28. Confidential Risk

Three risks have been removed from the register as they were no longer perceived to be a significant risk to the Council.

The risk rating for one risk had reduced due to the implementation of the action plan and further control measures in place:-

23. COVID 19 - Impact of response and recovery actions on the residents and

businesses of the Borough.

The risk rating for three risks have increased:-

- (i) 5b. Impact of inflation rise
- (ii) 7b. Cyber Security
- (iii) 11 Management of Major Projects

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee review the Corporate Risk Register.

10 ANNUAL RISK MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS REPORT 2021-22

The Committee received and considered the report from the Corporate Risk Officer.

The Corporate Risk Officer informed the Committee that the report provided an annual report of key risk management developments across the Council over the last 12 months for the Committee to review. The Chief Executive Officer had strategic responsibility for risk management, supported by the Management Team who acted as the Council's strategic risk management group. Heads of Service and Directors directed the risk management process in their service areas.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee note and approve the Annual Report on the Council's Risk Management arrangements.

11 CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Committee received and considered the report from the Corporate Risk Officer.

The Corporate Risk Officer informed the Committee that from a legal perspective, the Council was required at least once a year to undertake a review of the effectiveness of its system of internal control and include a statement of this review (the Annual Governance Statement) with its published Statement of Accounts. The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting, which the Council follows when preparing its Statement of Accounts, expected that authorities should give regard to the CIPFA guidance when preparing their Annual Governance Statement.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee approve the updated Code of Corporate Governance.

12 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2021-22

The Committee received and considered the report from the Corporate Risk Officer.

The Corporate Risk Officer reported that the governance arrangements had been effectively operating during the year with the exception of those areas identified in the statement. Over the coming year, steps would be taken to address the issues identified in the report to further enhance the governance arrangements. These steps would address the need for improvements that were identified during the review of effectiveness and would monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

Whilst the AGS made an assessment of the governance in place during 2021/22, the Coronavirus pandemic had impacted the financial, operational performance and workforce of the Council at the end of the 2019/2020 financial year, more so in 2020/2021 and during 2021/2022.

Work had been undertaken to ensure that there were robust governance arrangements, risk management and internal control measures in place within the Council. Policies and procedures had been reviewed and implemented throughout the Council to ensure the safety and wellbeing of officers, members and customers during the pandemic and preparation for returning to the office environment. Systems of internal control were required to be reviewed which resulted in revised working practices and processes at the start of the lockdown and the requirement to introduce alternative/additional control measures. Officers had been re-deployed to assist with the delivery of the service offered by the new Community Team and COVID 19 business grant.

Councillor Wainwright referred to page 218 of the report, Procurement, and requested confirmation as to how Pentaco had been procured to undertake the Market Place refurbishment. He was concerned as contract procurements for large projects, such as the refurbishment of the former Palmers building and the Wintergardens, were imminent and must be carried out robustly. The Corporate Risk Officer informed the Committee that the Contract Management arrangements were being reviewed by the Monitoring Officer and she would go back to her and flag the Committee's concerns.

The Chairman asked if the deadline given as 30 June 2022 in the report had been extended. The Corporate Risk Officer reported that it had been extended with control measures in place. The Head of Internal Audit reported that audit time had been allotted to look at the Council's procurement processes.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee consider and approve the 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement.

13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) The Finance Director informed the Committee that with regard to the Work Programme, the deadline for the publishing of the 2021/22 accounts was the end of

July 2022. However, the Finance Team was concentrating on getting the 2020/21 accounts finalised, so it was expected that the 2021/22 accounts would not be published until the middle or the end of August 2022 and she wanted to make the Committee aware of this.

The meeting ended at: 12:00

Subject: INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY - Progress and Follow Up

Report to: Audit and Risk Committee, 31 October 2022

Report by: Faye Haywood, Head of Internal Audit for Great Yarmouth Borough Council

SUBJECT MATTER

This report examines progress made between 1 April 2022 to 24 October 2022 in relation to the delivery of the revised Annual Internal Audit Plan for 2022/23. The report also provides an update on the implementation of internal audit recommendations.

1. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

1.1 This report reflects the completion of the audit reviews which are part of the annual internal audit plan of work, and any outstanding internal audit recommendations.

2. CURRENT POSITION OF THE ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2022/23 AND FOLLOW UP

2.1 The current position in relation to the delivery of the Internal Audit Plan for 2022/23. The report provides an update on outstanding 2021/22 work. An update on the implementation of internal audit recommendations is also shown within the attached report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Internal Audit Plan will be delivered within the revised budget for 2022/23.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Internal Audit planning starts with the Council's key risks, which then directs the audit plan for the financial year. Internal Audit reports then identify risk and control weaknesses within the Council, which are highlighted in this report, with appropriate management action being agreed to mitigate these risks within agreed timeframes.

5. **CONCLUSIONS**

5.1 The report contains an update on progress against the Internal Audit Plan for 2022/23. An update is also provided to the Audit and Risk Committee on the implementation of internal audit recommendations.

6. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 It is recommended that the Committee receives the progress update relating to the Internal Audit Plan for 2021/22 & 2022/23, and receives the update on the Council's implementation of internal audit recommendations.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix – Internal Audit Activity – Progress and Follow Up

| Area for consideration | Comment |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Monitoring Officer Consultation: | No |
| Section 151 Officer Consultation: | Yes |
| Existing Council Policies: | No |
| Financial Implications: | Covered within the report |
| Legal Implications (including human | No |
| rights): | |
| Risk Implications: | Covered within the report |
| Equality Issues/EQIA assessment: | No |
| | |
| Crime & Disorder: | No |
| Every Child Matters: | No |

Eastern Internal Audit Services



Great Yarmouth Borough Council

Internal Audit Update - Progress and Follow Up

Period Covered: 1 April 2022 to 24 October 2022

Responsible Officer: Faye Haywood – Head of Internal Audit for Great Yarmouth Borough Council

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report is issued to assist the Authority in discharging its responsibilities in relation to the internal audit activity.
- 1.2 The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards requires the Chief Audit Executive to report to the Audit Committee on the performance of internal audit relative to its plan, including any significant risk exposures and control issues.
- 1.3 To comply with the above this report includes:
 - Any significant changes to the approved Audit Plan;
 - Progress made in delivering the agreed audits for the year;
 - Any significant outcomes arising from audits; and
 - Performance Indicator outcomes to date.

2. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE APPROVED INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN

- 2.1 Since the plan's approval in March 2022, The IT internal audit programme has been reprofiled to allow the remainder of the 2021/22 IT audits to be completed. GY2320 Starters, Movers and Leavers and GY2319 Cyber Security have both been deferred to 2023/24 pending the audit planning risk assessment.
- 2.2 At the request of management, an open book audit was requested of GY Norse. This addition to the originally agreed plan was initially planned for 15 days, however due to unforeseen complexities, the audit days have increased to 35. This work is now concluded and is in draft awaiting a formal management response.

3. PROGRESS MADE IN DELIVERING THE AGREED AUDIT WORK

- 3.1 The current position in completing audits to date within the financial year is shown in **Appendix**1
- 3.2 In summary 136 days of programmed work have now been completed, equating to 46% of the Internal Audit Plan for 2022/23.

4. THE OUTCOMES ARISING FROM OUR WORK

4.1 On completion of each individual audit an assurance level is awarded using the following definitions:

Substantial Assurance: Based upon the issues identified there is a robust series of suitably designed internal controls in place upon which the organisation relies to manage the risks to the continuous and effective achievement of the objectives of the process, and which at the time of our review were being consistently applied.

Reasonable Assurance: Based upon the issues identified there is a series of internal controls in place, however these could be strengthened to facilitate the organisation's management of risks to the continuous and effective achievement of the objectives of the process. Improvements are required to enhance the controls to mitigate these risks.

Limited Assurance: Based upon the issues identified the controls in place are insufficient to ensure that the organisation can rely upon them to manage the risks to the continuous and effective achievement of the objectives of the process. Significant improvements are required to improve the adequacy and effectiveness of the controls to mitigate these risks.

No Assurance: Based upon the issues identified there is a fundamental breakdown or absence of core internal controls such that the organisation cannot rely upon them to manage risk to the continuous and effective achievement of the objectives of the process. Immediate action is required to improve the controls required to mitigate these risks.

4.2 Recommendations made on completion of audit work are prioritised using the following definitions:

Urgent (priority one): Fundamental control issue on which action to implement should be taken within 1 month.

Important (priority two): Control issue on which action to implement should be taken within 3 months.

Needs attention (priority three): Control issue on which action to implement should be taken within 6 months.

- 4.3 In addition, on completion of audit work "Operational Effectiveness Matters" are proposed, these set out matters identified during the assignment where there may be opportunities for service enhancements to be made to increase both the operational efficiency and enhance the delivery of value for money services. These are for management to consider and are not part of the follow up process.
- 4.4 During the period covered by the report Internal Audit has issued three reports:

| Audit | Assurance | P1 | P2 | P3 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|----|----|----|
| | | | | |
| GY2219 Software Licensing | Reasonable | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| GY2317 Disabled Facilities Grants & | Substantial | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Discretionary Loans | | | | |
| GY2312 Civil Contingency and Business | Reasonable | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Continuity | | | | |

The Executive Summaries of these reports are attached at **Appendix 2**, full copies of the reports can be requested by Members.

4.5 As can be seen in the table above and as a result of this audit 8 recommendations have been raised by Internal Audit. Two Operational Effectiveness Matters have been proposed to management for consideration.

4.6 **Conclusion of 2021/22 work**

The following reports included within the table below were in draft at the time of writing the 2021/22 audit opinion. All 2021/22 work has now concluded with the exception of IT work which has been re-profiled into the 2022/23 plan. The Voids and Housing Compliance audits which were both later additions to the plan are complete but require finalisation. The Programme and Project Management Executive Summary is provided at **Appendix 2** of this report.

| Audit | Status | Result |
|--|---|------------|
| GYN Invoicing | Final report 30 September 2022. Findings reported to A&R July 2022. | Limited |
| Programme and Project Management | Final report 17 October 2022. Findings Appendix 1 | Reasonable |

| Audit | Status | Result |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Key Controls and Assurance | Final report 27 July 2022 Findings reported to A&R July 2022. | Reasonable |
| Accountancy Services | Final report issued 2 August 2022 Findings reported to A&R July 2022 | Reasonable |
| Housing Compliance | Draft report issued 31 August Management comments stage | No Assurance |
| Voids | Draft report issued 11 October Management comments stage | Limited |

5. FOLLOW UP OF AGREED AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 In addition to providing the Committee with the performance of internal audit relative to its plan, the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards also require the Chief Audit Executive to establish a process to monitor and follow up management actions to ensure that they have been effectively implemented or that senior management have accepted the risk of not taking action.
- 5.2 To comply with the above this report includes the status of agreed actions.
- 5.3 As a result of audit recommendations, management agree action to ensure implementation within a specific timeframe and by a responsible officer. The management action subsequently taken is monitored by the Internal Audit Contractor on a regular basis and reported through to the Committee. Verification work is also undertaken for those recommendations that are reported as closed.
- Appendix 3 to this report shows the details of the progress made to date in relation to the implementation of the agreed recommendations. This appendix also reflects the year in which the audit was undertaken and identifies between outstanding recommendations that have previously been reported to this Committee and then those which have become outstanding this time round. A total of 39 recommendations are outstanding two urgent, 12 important and 25 needs attention priority.
- 5.5 **Appendix 4, 5** and **6** provide the committee with details of urgent and important priority recommendations that are overdue by the year in which they were raised. Management responses and a new deadline have been indicated for each where available.

APPENDIX 1 – PROGRESS IN COMPLETING THE AGREED AUDIT WORK

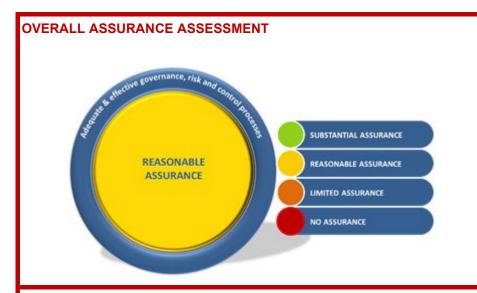
| Audit Area | Audit Ref | No. of days | Revised Days | Days Delivered | Status | Assurance Level | Recommendations | | | | Date to Committee |
|--|-----------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|----|----------------------|
| | | uuys | Days | Delivered | | | Urgent | Important | Needs Attention | Op | Committee |
| Quarter 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Corporate Health and Safety | GY2303 | 10 | 10 | 7 | Fieldwork underway. | | | | | | |
| Conservation and Heritage | GY2318 | 10 | 10 | 10 | Draft report issued on 26 August 2022. | | | | | | |
| Open Book Audit of Cost and Performance | GY2322 | 15 | 35 | 35 | Draft report issued on 30 September 2022. | | | | | | |
| Disabled Facilities Grants & Discretionary Loans | GY2317 | 10 | 10 | 10 | Final report issued on 8 July 2022. | Substantial | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | Oct-22 |
| TOTAL | | 45 | 65 | 62 | | | | | | | |
| Quarter 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tenancy Services | GY2316 | 10 | 10 | 7 | Fieldwork underway. | | | | | | |
| Corporate Plan and Performance | GY2304 | 10 | 10 | 6 | Fieldwork underway. | | | | | | |
| Event Management and Tourism | GY2310 | 10 | 10 | 7 | Fieldwork underway. | | | | | | |
| Civil Contingency and Business Continuity | GY2312 | 10 | 10 | 10 | Final report issued on 7 September 2022. | Reasonable | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | Oct-22 |
| Elections | GY2313 | 10 | 10 | 10 | Draft report issued on 11 October 2022. | | | | | | |
| Housing Asset Management | GY2314 | 12 | 12 | 7 | Fieldwork underway. | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | 62 | 62 | 47 | | | | | | | |
| Quarter 3 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Procurement and Contract Management | GY2302 | 12 | 12 | 0.5 | APM (Audit Planning Memorandum) in preparation. | | | | | | |
| Key Controls and Assurance Framework | GY2305 | 16 | 16 | 0 | | | | | | | |
| Payroll and HR | GY2308 | 15 | 15 | 0 | | | | | | | |
| Development Control | GY2311 | 10 | 10 | 0 | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | 53 | 53 | 0.5 | | | | | | | |

| Audit Area | Audit Ref | No. of days | Revised Days | Days Delivered | Status | Assurance Level | Recommendations | | | | Date to Committee |
|--|-----------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|----|----------------------|
| | | | | | | | Urgent | Important | Needs Attention | Op | |
| Quarter 4 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Corporate Governance | GY2301 | 10 | 10 | 0 | | | | | | | |
| Accounts Payable | GY2306 | 12 | 12 | 0 | | | | | | | |
| Bereavement Services | GY2309 | 10 | 10 | 1 | APM (Audit Planning Memorandum) issued. Fieldwork due to start on 13 February 2023. | | | | | | |
| Housing Needs, Allocations, Homelessness & Housing Register | GY2315 | 10 | 10 | 0 | | | | | | | |
| Housing Rents | GY2307 | 16 | 16 | 0 | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | 58 | 58 | 1 | | | | | | | |
| IT Audits | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Application Audit - HR and Payroll | GY2321 | 10 | 10 | 1 | Audit scoping underway. | | | | | | |
| Starters, Moveres, Leavers | GY2320 | 10 | 0 | 0 | Audit deferred to 2023/24. | | | | | | |
| Change Control and Patch Management | GY2218 | 0 | 10 | 0.5 | APM (Audit Planning Memorandum) in preparation. | | | | | | |
| Software Licensing | GY2219 | 0 | 10 | 10 | Final report issued on 26 September 2022. | Reasonable | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | Oct-22 |
| Digital Strategy | GY2220 | 0 | 10 | 8 | Audit fieldwork underway | | | | | | |
| Cyber Security | GY2319 | 10 | | 0 | Audit deferred to 2023/24. | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | 30 | 40 | 19.5 | | | | | | | |
| Follow Up | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Follow Up | N/A | 16 | 16 | 6 | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | 16 | 16 | 6 | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | 264 | 294 | 136 | | | 0 | 5 | 3 | 2 | |
| Percentage of plan completed | | | | 46% | | | | | | | |

APPENDIX 2 – AUDIT REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES

Assurance Review of GY2205 Programme and Project Management Arrangements

Executive Summary



ACTION POINTS

| Control Area | Urgent | Important | Needs Attention | Operational |
|------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|
| Policies, procedures, and guidance | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Project Management | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |

SCOPE

This area has not been subject to audit review at the Council before and was deferred in 2020/21 to enable Covid-19 coverage. The objective of the audit was to review the systems and controls in place over Programme and Project Management to help confirm that these are operating adequately, effectively and efficiently.

RATIONALE

- The systems and processes of internal control are, overall, deemed 'Reasonable Assurance' in managing the risks associated with the audit. The assurance opinion has been derived as a result of two 'needs attention' recommendations being raised upon the conclusion of our work.
- The area has not been subject to previous audit review by TIAA, as such, a direction of travel cannot be provided.

POSITIVE FINDINGS

It is acknowledged there are areas where sound controls are in place and operating consistently:

- A central record of all key projects is maintained by the Project Management Office (PMO), including the selected Town Deal Fund and Future High Street Funds projects. The database outlines information for each project, including budget allocation, objectives, project team, start/end dates, as well as whether certain key documentation has been completed. This allows for management to maintain overall awareness of all ongoing projects.
- Key projects are linked to an objective within the Corporate Plan. The sampled projects, Restoration of the Winter Gardens, and the Marketplace Development, were identified within the Corporate Plan, under the "Strong and Growing Economy" strategic priority. This helps resources ensure are appropriately allocated towards achieving the priorities outlined in the plan.
- The sampled projects were supported by sound business cases, with links to the Corporate Plan. This helps ensure projects contribute towards achieving the priorities outlined in the plan.
- Full risk assessments have been completed for both sampled projects, with risk continually assessed as the projects progress. This helps ensure existing, and emerging risks are identified, and mitigating actions put in place.
- Clearly defined milestones were established for both sampled projects, with quarterly reporting in place against those milestones. This helps ensure that projects are being delivered on target.
- Projects are subject to regular budget monitoring. This helps ensure projects are operating within the approved financial constraints.
- Key projects are subject to retrospective review. A recently completed project was sampled, and the end of project evaluation outlined the performance against the goals of the project, and also incorporated a lessons learnt section, which fulfilled the requirements outlined in the Project Management guide and from the external funding source. This helps ensure project deliverables are met, and helps inform best practices for future projects undertaken by the Council.

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

The audit has also highlighted the following areas where two 'needs attention' recommendations have been made.

Policies, procedures, and guidance

• Management to review the Project Management Guide, and update as appropriate, to reflect current officers, titles, and process. The updated Project Management Guide should then be disseminated, and made readily available to staff via intranet or shared drive.

Project Management

Management to implement controls to ensure that all highlight reports are fully completed with red, amber, green (RAG) ratings for key risks identified.

Operational Effectiveness Matters

There are no operational effectiveness matters for management to consider.

Previous audit recommendations

This area has not been subject to a previous audit review by TIAA.

Other Points Noted

Through the course of our audit, it was identified that the Project Management Office (PMO) had undergone staffing shortages during the audit period, going from roughly ten individuals to one. This had led to Project Managers also having to undertake administrative duties that would typically be handled by a Project Coordinator. The Council has offset the risk of internal shortages by utilising contracted project managers to fulfil their needs. Furthermore, plans are in place to recruit to the vacant roles, taking into account the ongoing re-organisation taking place within the Project Management Office and Capital Projects Team (Property and Asset Management Service).

The resources issue has been recognised as a corporate risk, the Corporate Risk Register (CRR) including risk number 11 - Management of Major Projects – which refers to resourcing and capacity. This risk is being mitigated by the actions as referred to in the previous paragraph which are also referred to in the CRR mitigation/action plans. The Corporate Risk has been rated as a medium risk which is classed as an acceptable risk with' some mitigating and contingency planning, routine reviews should be carried out to ensure there is no change which makes them more severe'.

Assurance Review of the GY2219 Software Licencing

Executive Summary



ACTION POINTS

| Control Area | Urgent | Important | Needs Attention | Operational |
|---|--------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|
| Software Licencing policies and procedures | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Software Licencing recordkeeping and monitoring | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 |

No recommendations were raised in the area of Software Licencing roles and responsibilities.

SCOPE

This audit was deferred from 2020/21 to allow for Covid-19 coverage and has not been reviewed recently. This audit provided assurance over the management of 3rd party licencing arrangements, and to ensure that all software licencing agreements have been identified, recorded, and updated if required prior to expiry.

RATIONALE

- The systems and processes of internal control are, overall, deemed 'Reasonable Assurance' in managing the risks associated with the audit. The assurance opinion has been derived as a result of two 'Important' and one 'Needs Attention' recommendations being raised upon the conclusion of our work.
- The audit has also raised one 'Operational Effectiveness Matter', which sets out matters identified during the assignment where there may be opportunities for service enhancements to be made to increase both the operational efficiency and enhance the delivery of value for money services.

POSITIVE FINDINGS

It is acknowledged there are areas where sound controls are in place and operating consistently:

- We observed that there are processes in place that support the implementation of changed, or new, systems in which Great Yarmouth Council and Norfolk County Council staff are involved in as required.
- The audit sampled five of the applications in use by the Council and found that licence usage and monitoring processes in place are adequate and effective within the sample selected.

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

The audit has highlighted the following area where two 'Important' recommendations have been made.

Software Licencing policies and procedures

• There is a need to ensure that the IT Investment Group Terms of Reference is reviewed to reduce the risk that it is not aligned to changing Council's needs and/or accepted good practice.

• There is a need to ensure that the "GYBC System Documentation" document is reviewed to reduce the risk that it is not aligned to changes such as replacement systems or renewed contract terms.

The audit has also highlighted the following areas where one 'Needs Attention' recommendation has been made.

Software Licencing policies and procedures

• There is a need to document a formal software licencing policy to reduce the risk of unauthorised or inappropriate licence usage.

Operational Effectiveness Matters

The operational effectiveness matters, for management to consider relate to the following:

• Consideration to be given to the implementation of software auditing to assist with monitoring software licence usage across all relevant devices.

GY2317 Disabled Facilities Grants - Executive Summary



ASSURANCE OVER KEY STRATEGIC RISK / OBJECTIVE

Assurance was provided over the following strategic risk - Funding for delivery of externally funded services and initiatives does not deliver required outcomes.

KEY STRATEGIC FINDINGS



The Private Sector Adaptation and Improvement Policy is comprehensive and outlines the funding eligibility requirements and specific reference is made to the relevant legislation.



All Disabled Facility Grants commissioned were signed off as approved by the Adaptations and Improvements Team Manager.



Evidence of the post inspection of works undertaken was provided through the Technical Officer signing off the invoice prior to contractor payment being made. The Adaptations and Improvements Team Manager reconciles grants paid as per the Ocella system to the ledger on a monthly basis.



Compliance testing identified one case where the Schedule of Rates inspection sheet was not signed off as independently checked by the Technical Officer.

GOOD PRACTICE IDENTIFIED



The Council has drawn findings from the Private Sector Housing Stock Model Study as a means of evaluating the local need for grants to be awarded.

SCOPE

This audit was last carried out in 2018/19 and given a reasonable assurance grading. This work is carried out periodically to support the DFG grant return. A sample of cases was selected for full review to provide assurance that DFGs are being approved and managed appropriately.

ACTION POINTS

| Urgent | Important | Needs Attention | Operational |
|--------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

Findings



Failure to properly direct the service to ensure compliance with the requirements of the organisation.

| Ref | Expected Key Risk Mitiga | ation | Effectiveness of arrangements | Cross Reference to MAP | Cross Reference to OEM |
|-----|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| GF | Governance Framework | There is a documented process instruction which accords with the relevant regulatory guidance, Financial Instructions and Scheme of Delegation. | In place | - | - |
| RM | Risk Mitigation | The documented process aligns with the mitigating arrangements set out in the corporate risk register. | In place | - | - |
| С | Compliance | Compliance with statutory, regulatory and policy requirements is demonstrated, with action taken in cases of identified non-compliance. | Partially in place | 1 | - |

Other Findings

- Governance Framework There is a Private Sector Adaptations and Improvement Policy in place which was approved by the Housing & Neighbourhoods Committee in September 2021. It was confirmed from a review of the Council's website that the policy is published and is therefore readily available to all staff and other stakeholders if required. The Policy is marked as a live document and is therefore subject to regular review.
- Risk Mitigation A review of the Housing Risk Register confirmed that the following risk is recorded as key and is scored based on likelihood and impact Funding for delivery of externally funded services and initiatives does not deliver required outcomes Appropriate mitigating actions have been defined including regular monitoring of service delivery against funding requirements directly related to grant funding.
- Compliance It should be noted that there was one disabled facility grants identified as part of compliance testing that did not meet the required completion timescale of one year from the date the notice of approval was served to the client. Discussions with the Adaptions and Improvement Team Manager confirmed that this delay was caused by Government restrictions put in place in response to Covid-19. It is recognised that often grants will be awarded to vulnerable clients and therefore it was not always possible to gain entry into homes throughout the period of Covid-19 restrictions.



Delivery Risk:

Failure to deliver the service in an effective manner which meets the requirements of the organisation.

| Ref | Expected Key Risk Mit | igation | Effectiveness of arrangements | Cross Reference to MAP | Cross Reference to OEM |
|-----|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| PM | Performance Monitoring | There are agreed KPIs for the process which align with the business plan requirements and are independently monitored, with corrective action taken in a timely manner. | In place | - | - |
| s | Sustainability | The impact on the organisation's sustainability agenda has been considered. | In place | - | - |
| R | Resilience | Good practice to respond to business interruption events and to enhance the economic, effective and efficient delivery is adopted. | In place | - | - |

Other Findings

- Performance Management Grant funding is monitored. The Housing and Neighbourhoods Committee meets on a quarterly basis where statistics are provided on the length of time to complete DFG works and the amount of grants awarded for the period.
- Sustainability The Council is responsible for maintaining the sustainability of the area. Loans and grants initiatives are key to ensuring that properties within the area are appropriately maintained. Appropriate analysis of the need for loans and grant founding has been defined within the Private Sector Adaptations and Improvement Policy. The DFG budget is determined by Norfolk County Council who receive a funding allocation from the government. A copy of the grant determination letter from the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government was provided and it was confirmed that the Council was allocated £1,348,045 of DFG funding for 2021/22.
- Resilience Discussions with the Adaptations and Improvements Team Manager confirmed that Occupational Therapist referrals are provided to Great Yarmouth Borough Council from Norfolk County Council. It was advised that Norfolk County Council currently has a shortage of Occupational Therapists and this has had an effect on the volume of grant applications, although not directly with Great Yarmouth BC.

Executive Summary – GY2312 Civil Contingency and Business Continuity



Assurances were provided over the following risks – "Business Continuity" and "Incident Management - Flood Risk". See also scope section below.

SCOPE

A review of Civil Contingency and Business Continuity has not been undertaken at the Council recently. Two medium scoring risks have been raised in the Corporate Risk Register regarding the ability to respond to a flooding incident and ensuring services to residents would continue during an incident. This audit seeks to provide assurance that the Council has the necessary plans and capabilities to respond to incidents effectively.

KEY STRATEGIC FINDINGS



Although Business Continuity Plans and Emergency Response Plans are in place, they do not include reference to remote working and its potential impact on incident response.



The Council does not have sufficient Rest Centre Managers in the event that rest centres are required in response to an incident, such as flooding.



Formal training on business continuity has not been provided since 2019. Staff who joined the Council in the last two years have therefore not had any training.



The Corporate Business Continuity Plan and Framework have not been updated since 2020 and 2018 respectively.

GOOD PRACTICE IDENTIFIED



Each service has a Business Continuity Plan and Business Impact Analysis, which identify the critical activities, recovery times and resource requirements.



Processes and plans have been refined and updated throughout the Covid-19 pandemic as a result of lessons learnt from the response.

ACTION POINTS

| Urgent | Important | Needs Attention | Operational | | |
|--------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|--|--|
| 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | | |

Findings



Directed Risk:

Failure to properly direct the service to ensure compliance with the requirements of the organisation.

| Ref | Expected Key Risk Mit | igation | Effectiveness of arrangements | Cross Reference to MAP | Cross Reference to OEM |
|-----|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| GF | Governance Framework | There is a documented process instruction which accords with the relevant regulatory guidance, Financial Instructions and Scheme of Delegation. | Partially in place | 1, & 4 | - |
| RM | Risk Mitigation | The documented process aligns with the mitigating arrangements set out in the corporate risk register. | Partially in place | 2 | - |
| С | Compliance | Compliance with statutory, regulatory and policy requirements is demonstrated, with action taken in cases of identified non-compliance. | Partially in place | 3 | - |

Other Findings

- Governance Framework Each service has its own Business Continuity Plan and Business Impact Analysis, which identify the critical activities, recovery times and resource requirements for the service.
- Governance Framework The Emergency Response Plan provides an overview of incidents, roles and responsibilities, multi-agency coordination, communications, rest centres, training and recovery, which apply generally to all emergency responses. Appendices to the Emergency Response Plan provide more detailed procedures for responding to specific types of emergency.

- Governance Framework Key roles and responsibilities are defined in the Corporate Business Continuity Plan. In response to an incident, there are Gold (strategic), Silver (tactical) and Bronze (operational) groups that can be stood up. Specific responsibilities are also listed for the Chief Executive, Resilience Officer, Customer Services, Corporate Services, ICT, HR and Members.
- Risk Mitigation There are two risks relating to Business Continuity and Emergency Planning recorded on the Council's Corporate Risk Register. Mitigations for these are listed and they are managed through the Council's risk management processes.
- Risk Mitigation The Council's Coastal Manager recently retired, which has been a significant loss to the Council due to his extensive local knowledge and experience. To mitigate this, a monthly working group has been set up to facilitate information sharing between Coastal Partnership East and Environmental Health/Resilience Officer. A draft proposal has also been prepared for the incident response in the event of a cliff failure, which shows the actions and responsibilities depending on the severity of the incident.
- Compliance The Resilience Officer works with the Council's IT service to ensure that there is alignment between business continuity and the IT disaster recovery plans. This includes participation in disaster recovery exercises.
- Compliance Processes and plans have been refined and updated throughout the Covid-19 pandemic as a result of lessons learnt from the response. Partnerships, such as the Norfolk Resilience Forum, have been strengthened from collaboration in the pandemic response.



Delivery Risk:

Failure to deliver the service in an effective manner which meets the requirements of the organisation.

| Ref | Expected Key Risk Mit | igation | Effectiveness of arrangements | Cross Reference to MAP | Cross Reference to OEM |
|-----|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| PM | Performance Monitoring | There are agreed KPIs for the process which align with the business plan requirements and are independently monitored, with corrective action taken in a timely manner. | In place | - | - |
| S | Sustainability | The impact on the organisation's sustainability agenda has been considered. | Out of scope | - | - |
| R | Resilience | Good practice to respond to business interruption events and to enhance the economic, effective and efficient delivery is adopted. | Partially in place | 3 | - |

Other Findings

- Performance Monitoring Service BCPs are review and updated annually. The Resilience Officer maintains a tracker spreadsheet which shows when each plan was last updated and who is responsible for it.
- Resilience In general, the Council's resilience in response to a business continuity event has improved since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, as the majority of staff now have the experience and equipment to work from home. Previously, office space and IT equipment, such as laptops, were significant constraints on business continuity planning as they would have to be allocated carefully.
- Resilience There is also resilience for specific roles: another officer from Norfolk County Council can cover if the Resilience Officer is absent, and several members of leadership and management of the Council have experience of running the internal response structures/groups and of representing the Council at the Norfolk Resilience Forum. However, managers who joined the Council in the last two years have not had this exposure or training. See Recommendation 3.

APPENDIX 3 – STATUS OF AGREED INTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

| | | | Completed bet | ween 1 Apri tober 2022 | l 2022 to 24 | | ously repor ttee as outs | | (Nev | v) Outstand | ling | Total Outstanding | Not Yet Due for implementation | | |
|-----------|---|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|------------|------------|
| | | | Priority 1 | Priority 2 | Priority 3 | Priority 1 | Priority 2 | Priority 3 | Priority 1 | Priority 2 | Priority 3 | | Priority 1 | Priority 2 | Priority 3 |
| Audit Ref | Audit Area | Assurance Level | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2018/19 A | udits | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| GY1901 | Corporate Governance | Limited | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | |
| GY1908 | Capital Programme | Reasonable | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | |
| GY1909 | Environmental Services | Reasonable | | | | | 1 | 4 | | | | 5 | | | |
| GY1914 | Procurement | Limited | | 1 | | | | 3 | | | | 3 | | | |
| GY1916 | Property & Asset Mgt | Reasonable | | | | | | 2 | | | | 2 | | | |
| 2019/20 A | udits | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| GY2008 | Housing Strategy and Affordable Housing | Reasonable | | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | |
| GY2016 | Corporate Enforcement | Reasonable | | | | | 1 | 2 | | | | 3 | | | |
| GY2020 | Starters, Movers, Leavers | Reasonable | | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | |
| 2020/21 A | udits | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| GY2106 | HR & Payroll | Reasonable | | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | |
| GY2107 | Key Controls and Assurance | Reasonable | | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | |

| | | | Completed bet | ween 1 Apri tober 2022 | I 2022 to 24 | | ously repor ttee as outs | | (Nev | w) Outstand | ding | Total Outstanding | Not Yet D | ue for imple | mentation |
|-----------|--|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|----------------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| | | | Priority 1 | Priority 2 | Priority 3 | Priority 1 | Priority 2 | Priority 3 | Priority 1 | Priority 2 | Priority 3 | | Priority 1 | Priority 2 | Priority 3 |
| Audit Ref | Audit Area | Assurance Level | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2021/22 A | udits | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| GY2207 | Counter Fraud and Corruption | Limited | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 9 | | | |
| GY2216 | Coastal Protection | Reasonable | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | 2 |
| GY2211 | Housing Benefits and Ctax Support | Reasonable | | | 1 | | | | | | | 0 | | | |
| GY2212 | Council Tax and NNDR | Reasonable | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 2 | 2 | | | |
| GY2208 | Accountancy Services | Reasonable | | | | | | | | | | 0 | | 1 | 1 |
| GY2203 | Annual Governance Statement | Reasonable | | | | | | | | | 2 | 2 | | | 1 |
| GY2219 | Software Licensing | Reasonable | | | | | | | | | | 0 | | 2 | 1 |
| GY2202 | Risk Management | Reasonable | | 2 | 2 | | | | | 2 | 2 | 4 | | | |
| GY2201 | GYN Invoicing | Limited | 2 | 7 | | | | | | | | | 4 | 2 | |
| GY2205 | Programme and Project Management | Reasonable | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 |
| GY2213 | Capital Programme Contracts | Substantial | | | 2 | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| GY2215 | Environmental Services | Limited | | 2 | 2 | | | | | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| 2022/23 A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| GY2312 | Civil Contingency and Business Continuity | Reasonable | | | | | | | | | | 0 | | 3 | 1 |
| GY2317 | Disabled Facilities Grant | Substantial | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Total | | | 2 | 13 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 16 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 39 | 6 | 13 | 12 |

APPENDIX 4 – OUTSTANDING INTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS – 2018/19

| Report | Recommendation | Priority | Responsible Officer | Due Date | Revised Due Date | Number of times revised | Status | Latest Response |
|--|---|----------|--|------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---|
| GY1901 Corporate Governance | Recommendation 8: A review of off-site paper storage arrangements is undertaken to ensure they are GDPR compliant. | 2 | Head of Property and Asset Management | 31/01/2019 | 31/12/2022 | 8 | Outstanding | Update received from the Senior Performance and Data Protection Officer: "Due to the location of the containers and the need to use outside space to review and sort the files, the inclement weather experienced during the months of April & May has delayed the recommencement of this work. A further delay has now been experienced as the Data Protection Officer has been summoned for Jury Service. The project will re-start once the Data Protection Officer returns so a revised date of 31st December is requested. |
| GY1908 Capital Programme Contracts (General Fund and Housing Revenues Account) | Recommendation 6: In respect of the Norfolk County Council (NCC) Norfolk Infrastructure Fund (NIF) for the energy park, the following is undertaken Confirmation that the NCC Policy & Resources committee has formally approved the NIF budget of £2.75m; and-Agreement of how payment of the funding is processed, e.g. expenditure is invoiced on a regular basis such as annually. This process to be formally agreed and documented. | 2 | Finance Director | 30/06/2019 | 31/03/2023 | 7 | Outstanding | The value of monies due from County is subject to an agreement, which is being negotiated. It is expected that this will be completed by the financial year-end. |

| Report | Recommendation | Priority | Responsible Officer | Due Date | Revised Due Date | Number of times revised | Status | Latest Response |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------|--------------------------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---|
| GY1909 Environmental Services | Recommendation 1: Contaminated land. The review of the prioritisation site list is concluded as follows: completion of the review of medium scored sites; - finalising the further work needed in respect of the high scored sites to assess the possibility of significant harm and an addition of the date when the review work for each site has been completed and officer/reviewer name. | 2 | Head of Environmental Services | 31/05/2019 | 31/03/2023 | 5 | Outstanding | There have been some changes in the team, and there is now an officer in place to be able to do this. Due date revised to March 2023. |

APPENDIX 5 – OUTSTANDING INTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS – 2019/20

| Report | Recommendation | Priority | Responsible Officer | Due Date | Revised Due Date | Number of times revised | Status | Latest Response |
|------------------------------------|---|----------|--------------------------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---|
| GY2016 Corporate Enforcement | Recommendation 1: Technological efficiencies with the new proposed system to be identified and maximised. A set format to be agreed for storing files. In addition a data cleansing exercise to be undertaken as planned to ensure that the council is compliant with GDPR. | 2 | Head of Environmental Services | 30/04/2021 | 31/12/2022 | 1 | Outstanding | New IT system delayed until 2022 delivery. Enforcement training rolled out across service and this will include data storage for case investigation. File storage being rationalised and cleared out by Business Support team, files being deleted and paper copies being scanned. |

APPENDIX 6 – OUTSTANDING INTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS – 2021/22

| Report | Recommendation | Priority | Responsible Officer | Due Date | Revised Due Date | Number of times revised | Status | Latest Response |
|--|---|-----------|---------------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--|
| GY2207 Counter Fraud and Corruption | Recommendation 1: The Council undertake an assessment of the fraud and corruption risks that it faces including comparison with the FFCL and put in place actions to mitigate them. Once complete the assessment needs to be used to determine whether a strategic risk should be added to the corporate risk register. The Audit and Risk Committee and the relevant Portfolio Holder to be briefed on the risks identified. | Urgent | Corporate Risk Officer | 30/04/2022 | 31/12/2022 | 1 | Outstanding | Work in progress - request to revise the deadline to 31 December 2022. |
| GY2207 Counter Fraud and Corruption | Recommendation 2: An assessment of the resources required to deliver counter fraud work be undertaken. | Urgent | Corporate Risk Officer | 30/04/2022 | 31/12/2022 | 1 | Outstanding | Work in progress - request to revise the deadline to 31 December 2022. |
| GY2207 Counter Fraud and Corruption | Recommendation 4: A Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy be devised, applying to all aspects of the Councils' business. This should be communicated throughout the Council and acknowledged by those charged with governance. A strategy provides a framework for preventing and tackling bribery, fraudulent and corrupt acts against the Councils. | Important | Corporate Risk Officer | 30/04/2022 | 31/12/2022 | 1 | Outstanding | A revised deadline of 31 December 2022 has been requested by Corporate Risk Officer. |
| GY2207 Counter Fraud and Corruption | Recommendation 3: The Audit and Risk Committee be updated on an annual basis on the Council's counter fraud activity and its progress against the Fighting Fraud and Corruption Locally Strategy 2020. | Important | Corporate Risk Officer | 30/06/2022 | 31/12/2022 | 1 | Outstanding | A revised deadline of 31 December 2022 has been requested by Corporate Risk Officer. |

| Report | Recommendation | Priority | Responsible Officer | Due Date | Revised Due Date | Number of times | Status | Latest Response |
|--|--|-----------|---|------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|---|
| GY2207 Counter Fraud and Corruption | Recommendation 5: Training sessions for counter fraud and corruption to be rolled out across the Council. Records for training sessions to be formally recorded and monitored. | Important | Corporate Risk Officer | 30/06/2022 | 31/12/2022 | revised 1 | Outstanding | Fraud policies on the Loop and Website are still be uploaded by the IT team following resolving accessibility issues which is preventing progress with this recommendation – revised implementation dated 31 December 2022. |
| GY2207 Counter Fraud and Corruption | Recommendation 6: A programme of work be introduced to improve staff awareness and responsiveness to fraud across the Council. | Important | Corporate Risk Officer | 30/06/2022 | 31/12/2022 | 1 | Outstanding | A revised deadline of 31 December 2022 has been requested by Corporate Risk Officer. |
| GY2207 Counter Fraud and Corruption | Recommendation 7: An annual action plan to carry out all required counter fraud work be put in place and agreed by committee. The agreed plan should be linked to the annual audit plan and shared with Members and senior management. | Important | Corporate Risk Officer | 30/06/2022 | 31/12/2022 | 1 | Outstanding | A revised deadline of 31 December 2022 has been requested by Corporate Risk Officer. |
| GY2215 Environmental Services | Recommendation 5: The 2020 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR) be submitted to DEFRA and then reported to the Environment Committee. | Important | Senior Environmental Protection Officer | 30/09/2022 | 30/12/2022 | 1 | Outstanding | The report has been completed and was submitted to Defrahowever they have identified some technical calculations errors and sent this back for amendment. We will be looking to rectify and resubmit the report shortly. Once this has been accepted it will then reporting to Env Committee. |
| GY2202 Risk Management | Recommendation 1: The Partnership Register (PR) is reviewed and updated, taking into account the Outside Bodies report, and whether this can be reduced to key | Important | Corporate Risk Officer | 31/08/2022 | 31/12/2022 | 1 | Outstanding | Work in progress - request to revise the deadline to 31 December 2022. |

| Report | Recommendation | Priority | Responsible Officer | Due Date | Revised Due Date | Number of times revised | Status | Latest Response |
|---------------------------|--|-----------|---------------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--|
| | partnerships whilst keeping a track of all key risks. The PR should then be presented to ELT / Management Team' and Corporate Risk Group for agreement. The Partnership Governance Framework is also reviewed and update as necessary following the review of the PR. | | | | | | | |
| GY2202 Risk Management | Recommendation 3: A service risk register template is introduced for the 2022/23 financial year which is in line with the Corporate Risk Register template and methodology. These should be reviewed by the Corporate Risk Group during the first quarter of each financial year and subsequently reviewed for any material changes. | Important | Corporate Risk Officer | 22/08/2022 | 31/12/2022 | 1 | Outstanding | Copies of Services Risk Registers have been requested from HoS and to be presented at the CRG on 31 October 2022. To date I have received 3 Service Risk Registers. This exercise has identified that some service areas have not completed a Service Risk Register and are in the process of implementing this. |

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23

| 31 October 2022 | 5 December 2022 | 6 March 2023 |
|--|--|---|
| Progress Report on Internal Audit Activity 2022/23 | Progress Report on Internal Audit Activity 2022/23 | Progress Report on Internal Audit Activity 2022/23 |
| Report on the Status of Audit Recommendations | Report on the Status of Audit Recommendations | Report on the Status of Audit Recommendations |
| | | Strategic and Annual Internal Audit Plan 2023/24 |
| | | |
| | | |
| Audit Results Report 2020/21 | | |
| | | |
| Final Statement of Accounts 2020/21 (following Audit) | | Draft Statement of Accounts 2021/22 - Update |
| | Corporate Risk Register | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | Annual Governance Statement Action Plan Update | Page 40 of 40 |