

WIRRAL COUNCIL

AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

18 MARCH 2014

SUBJECT:	INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2014-15
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	CHIEF INTERNAL AUDITOR
KEY DECISION ?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The report identifies the Strategic Internal Audit Plan that was approved by this Committee in June 2013 and includes audit work planned during 2014/15.
- 1.2 For 2014/15 work scheduled for completion has been adjusted to reflect the findings of the extensive planning exercise recently undertaken to ensure the ongoing relevance of risks previously identified, as well as the inclusion of any risks to the organisation that have emerged since the original exercise, or are likely to emerge in the near future.
- 1.3 The audit needs assessment prepared following the planning exercise has been matched with the available internal audit resources and adjusted for years 2 and 3 to reflect the current establishment. The available resource at this time is considered sufficient, barring any significant unforeseen issue arising to enable delivery across all areas of the plan and provide the necessary assurance opinion on the effectiveness of the Councils control environment.
- 1.4 If available resources are not considered by the Chief Internal Auditor to be sufficient to provide the audit opinion then this matter will be reported to the organisation.
- 1.5 The updated plan has been presented to the Chief Executive's Corporate Strategy Group and approved for implementation..

2.0 RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Audit and Risk Management Committee is required by its terms of reference to advise on the adequacy of the Council's strategic risk management, internal control and governance processes.
- 2.2 The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards produced jointly by the Chartered Institute for Public Finance and Accountancy and the Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors sets out the expected professional standards for Internal Audit in Local Government.
- 2.3 The standards set out the requirement for a risk based internal audit plan. This report identifies the Strategic Internal Audit Plan for the three year period and within this the Annual Internal Audit Plan for 2014/15.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

If appropriate systems are not in place or are not effective there is a risk of potential failure of;

- 3.1 The Council not achieving its corporate objectives.
- 3.2 The potential failure of the Audit and Risk Management Committee to comply with best professional practice and thereby not function in an efficient and effective manner.
- 3.3 Meeting statutory requirements to provide adequate and effective systems of internal audit.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 No other options considered.

5.0 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Members of this Committee, Chief Officers and other stakeholders are consulted throughout the process of developing and delivering the Internal Audit Plan.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 6.1 There are none arising from this report.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 7.1 There are none arising from this report.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are none arising from this report.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

(a) No because there is no relevance to equality.

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are none arising from this report.

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are none arising from this report.

12.0 RECOMMENDATION

12.1 That in accordance with the terms of reference for the Audit and Risk Management Committee, Members should endorse the delivery of year 2 of the Strategic Internal Audit Plan for 2013-2016.

13.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

13.1 To provide the Members with assurance that the Council is taking appropriate measures to comply with statutory requirements to provide an adequate and effective internal audit service.

13.2 To ensure that the Council complies with best practice guidance identified in the CIPFA publication 'A Toolkit for Local Authority Audit Committees'.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Strategic Internal Audit Plan 2013-16

REFERENCE MATERIAL

CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government
Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors Standards & Protocols for Internal Auditing
Public Sector Internal Audit Standards

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Audit and Risk Management Committee	Annual report presented to March meetings of this Committee during last 3 years.