



Report of the Director of Resources

Corporate Governance and Audit Committee

Date: 14th February, 2011

Subject: Internal Audit Report February 2011

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Executive Summary

The Corporate Governance and Audit Committee ('the Committee') has responsibility for reviewing the adequacy of the Council's Corporate Governance arrangements. Reports issued by Internal Audit are a key source of assurance providing the Committee with some evidence that the internal control environment is operating as intended.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1 At the 29th July 2010 meeting of the Corporate Governance & Audit Committee details on the cost of Internal Audit to the Council and further information on the value added to the Council by the section through its value for money work was requested. This report includes some commentary on this question.
- 1.2 By reviewing, challenging and monitoring such reports the Committee itself is demonstrating sound governance arrangements and enables it to take appropriate action if needed. It should be noted that Internal Audit will also issue interim reports to the Committee if any significant matters arise which would warrant immediate attention.

2.0 Main Issues

- 2.1 The report details the work undertaken by the internal audit section and focuses particularly on 'value added' to the organisation through this work. The report also contains a summary of completed jobs along with their individual opinions.
- 2.2 Section 2 of this report also details the changes made to the Internal Audit Plan during the course of the year in response to the new challenges and risks being faced by the organisation. At this moment it is expected that the mix and volume of work will be sufficient to provide the Committee and other stakeholders with evidence based assurance on the control environment of the Council.

3.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

3.1 The terms of reference of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee require the Committee to review the adequacy of the Council's corporate governance arrangements. This report forms part of the suite of assurances that provides this evidence to the Committee.

4.0 Legal And Resource Implications

4.1 None.

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 There are no issues identified by Internal Audit that would necessitate direct intervention by the Corporate Governance & Audit Committee.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 That Corporate Governance and Audit Committee notes;

- The February Internal Audit Report 2010/11 and the assurances given.
- The changes to the 2010/11 Operational Plan
- The value added to the organisation by the internal audit section

Background Documents Used

None