

DFP/24/20
DCC Audit Committee
28th February 2024

Report of the Director of Finance

INTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE REPORT FOR 2023/24

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

1) Recommendations:

That the Committee reviews and considers:

- i. the current assurance opinion.
- ii. that members review and consider the performance of Devon Audit Partnership during the year.
- iii. that members review and consider the outcomes of the work completed.

The key objective of Internal Audit is to provide assurance to Members, Leadership Group and the Director of Finance (as the Council's "section 151 responsible officer"), on the adequacy and security of those systems on which the County Council relies for its internal control, both financial and management.

This work and the continuing contribution of Devon Audit Partnership to both risk management and anti-fraud arrangements within the Council, lead to an opinion that the Council continues to have an effective framework of control which provides reasonable assurance regarding the effective, efficient and economic achievement of its objectives.

2) Background / Introduction

The attached report provides an update on the opinion of the Council's Internal Audit Service (Devon Audit Partnership) and describes the progress against the internal audit plans for 2023/24 that were approved by the Audit Committee in February 2023.

3) Main Body / Proposal

The attached report provides an update on the opinion of the Council's Internal Audit Service (Devon Audit Partnership) and describes the progress against the internal audit plans for 2023/24 that were approved by the Audit Committee in February 2023.

This work and the continuing contribution of Devon Audit Partnership to both risk management and anti-fraud arrangements within the Council, lead to an opinion that the Council continues to have an effective framework of control which provides reasonable assurance regarding the effective, efficient and economic achievement of its objectives.

4) Options / Alternatives

Not Applicable

5) Consultations / Representations / Technical Data

This report has been agreed with DCC SLT.

6) Strategic Plan:

There are no strategic plan issues associated with this report.

7) Financial Considerations:

There are no direct Financial Considerations issues associated with this report.

8) Legal Consideration:

There are no specific Legal Considerations or issues associated with this report.

9) Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change):

There are no specific Environmental Impact Considerations or issues associated with this report.

10) Equality Considerations:

There are no specific Equality considerations associated with this report

11) Risk Management Considerations:

There are no specific Risk Management considerations associated with this report

12) Public Health Impact:

There is no specific impact on Public Health in connection with this report.

13) Summary/Conclusions/Reasons for Recommendations:

Reasons for reviewing the report and information within it are linked to the Committees Terms of Refence and those relevant to this meeting.

That the Committee reviews and considers:

- i. the current assurance opinion.
- ii. that members review and consider the performance of Devon Audit Partnership during the year.
- iii. that members review and consider the outcomes of the work completed.

Angie Sinclair
Director of Finance and Public Value

Electoral Divisions: All

Local Government Act 1972: List of background papers

Nil

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