

7. **INTERNAL AUDIT 2020/21 ANNUAL PLAN (A1362/7/DH)**

**Purpose of the report**

1. This report asks Members` to approve the proposed Internal Audit Plan for 2020/21.

**Key issues include:**

- **The purpose of the Internal Audit Plan is to provide the Head of Internal Audit with sufficient evidence to give an opinion on the effectiveness of risk management, governance and internal control across the full range of activities of the organisation.**

**Recommendations**

2. 1. **That the 2020/21 Internal Audit Plan be approved.**

**How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?**

3. The work of the Internal Auditors is a key part of our governance arrangements and helps us to monitor and improve performance to ensure the Authority has a solid foundation supporting achievement of our outcomes, as set out in the Corporate Strategy, by making sure the Authority is an agile and efficient organisation.

**Background**

4. The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require that the Authority undertakes an adequate and effective system of internal audit of its accounting records and its system of internal control in accordance with proper practices. Our Internal Audit Provider is Veritau Ltd and the Assistant Director – Audit Assurance is Ian Morton.

**Proposals**

5. Members are asked to consider and approve the Internal Audit 2020/21 Audit Plan.

**Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?**

6. **Financial:**

The cost of the Internal Audit contract is found from within the overall Finance budget.

7. **Risk Management:**

The Internal Audit process is regarded as an important part of the overall internal controls operated by the Authority.

8. **Sustainability:**

There are no implications to identify.

9. **Background papers** (not previously published) – None

**Appendices -**

Appendix 1: Internal Audit Annual Audit Plan 2020/21

**Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date**

David Hickman, Director of Corporate Strategy and Development, 16 July 2020