

Risk Management – Corporate Fraud Team

Audit Committee

Date: 27th June 2017

Author: Head of Internal Audit

Wards: None

Parishes Affected: None

1. Purpose and Reasons

1.1 Audit Committee's terms of reference include the following statement in relation to risk management:

1.2 *The role of the Audit Committee in relation to risk management covers three major areas:*

- *Assurance over the governance of risk, including overseeing the authority's risk management policy and strategy*
- *Keeping up-to-date with the risk profile and the effectiveness of risk management actions by reviewing arrangements to co-ordinate and lead risk management and following up risks identified by auditors and inspectors to ensure they are integrated into the risk management process.*
- *Monitoring the effectiveness of risk management arrangements and supporting the development and embedding of good practice in risk management.*

1.3 In order to help meet these requirements Members are presented with half yearly updates on the corporate risk register by the Corporate Planning Lead. It was also agreed that the Chair of Audit Committee would, in consultation with other Committee Members, the Head of Internal Audit and the Corporate Planning Lead, select areas of risk for further discussion. In the past Members have received reports on:

- Emergency planning and business continuity
- Child sexual exploitation
- Information technology

1.4 The Chair of the Audit Committee requested that a summary of the work of the Corporate Fraud Team be presented to the Committee.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the contents of the report be noted.

3. Detail

Background

Risk Management – Corporate Fraud Team

Audit Committee

Date: 27th June 2017

- 3.1 Audit Committee are presented with regular update reports regarding risk management activity within the Council along with the latest corporate risk register.
- 3.2 It was agreed that the Chair of Audit Committee will select, in conjunction with other Committee Members and the Head of Internal Audit future risks to be covered. The Chair of Audit Committee selected the work of the Corporate Fraud Team to be discussed at the June meeting.

Corporate Fraud Team

- 3.3 The Corporate Fraud Team sits within the Internal Audit section. It is managed by one of the Council's Principal Auditors who will attend Audit Committee to give Members a presentation on the work carried out by the team.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 Not Applicable

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Internal Audit is a statutory requirement of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The Internal Audit service also provides assurance to the Director of Finance regarding the requirements of Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 Not applicable.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 Not applicable.

Risk Management

- 5.5 The resources of the Corporate Fraud Team are directed at what are perceived to be the areas where the risk of fraud is greatest.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

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7. Background Papers

7.1 None

8. Appendices

8.1 None