

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Executive Director of Corporate Services

Audit & Performance Review Committee: 27th February 2013

Subject: Internal Audit Plan 2013/14

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the planned programme of work for the Internal Audit Section for the year 2013/14.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report.

3. Background

- 3.1 *Public Sector Internal Audit Standards* (The Standards) (applying the Institute of Internal Auditors International Standards to the UK Public Sector) have been agreed to be adopted from the 1st April 2013 by the relevant public sector Internal Audit Standard setters. Elements of the standards are based on the Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors International Professional Practices Framework. Standard setters are; HM Treasury; Scottish Government; Department of Finance and Personnel Northern Ireland; Welsh Government; Department of Health; and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

- 3.2 The plan was compiled using a risk-based approach as referred to in The Standards. The major corporate systems have been risk assessed and from this exercise 11 high risk areas have been included in the plan.

4. Main Issues

- 4.1 The audit planning process has taken into account the following factors:
- A risk based audit needs assessment identifying all potential audit areas.
 - Consultations with Senior Management.
 - The plans of External Audit and other inspection agencies.
 - The Council's key strategic risks.
 - Corporate Objectives.
 - Current issues and changes in computer systems.
 - Resources available.
- 4.2 Within the 2013/14 Internal Audit Plan, 65 days have been allocated to the completion of risk based audits previously scheduled to occur fully within the 2012/13 Audit Plan. It is normally expected that some assignments planned in one year will not be completed until the following year.

4.3 Internal Audit monitors delivery of the plan continuously during the year using a number of performance indicators. Progress is reported to members on a quarterly basis.

4.4 The Annual Report on Internal Audit will compare the work actually undertaken against the work planned and summarise performance against targets. It will also provide an opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's control environment. Work done underpins the Statement of Internal Financial Control / Annual Governance Statement which will be published with the Abstract of Accounts.

5. Personnel Implications

5.1 There are no personnel issues.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications.

7. Risk Analysis

7.1 The Plan has been constructed taking cognisance of the risks associated with major systems. Consultation with Senior Managers was carried out to ensure that risks associated with delivering the Council's strategic priorities have been considered.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

8.1 An Equalities Impact Screening was carried out which revealed no relevant issues.

9. Consultation

9.1 This report has been subject to a check by Finance Services and Legal, Democratic & Regulatory Services with no issues identified.

10. Strategic Assessment

10.1 This report relates to all five of the Council's Strategic Priorities.

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12 February 2013

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Appendices: Internal Audit Plan 2013/14

Background Papers: Equalities Impact Assessment

Wards Affected: All Wards