

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Chief Executive

Audit and Performance Review Committee: 16 March 2011

Subject: Internal Audit Progress Report to 31 December 2010

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To advise Committee Members of the work undertaken by the Internal Audit Section against the Audit Plan 2010/11.

2. Background

- 2.1** In accordance with the Annual Audit Plan, Internal Audit report to Members on the work completed by the Section during the first three quarters. The progress report to 31 December 2010 is attached at Appendix A. Explanations of significant variances are contained within the notes below.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** The section has suffered the loss of 80 days due to a staff vacancy and secondment during the period.
- 3.2** The planned time for investigations has been exceeded substantially due to continued involvement in major allegations of fraud. The Administration / Staffing adverse variance is mainly due to the relocation of office from the ground to third floor.
- 3.3** CRSA / Regularity is the main area where coverage has suffered but it is anticipated that slightly more time can be spent in this area in the last quarter of the year . However there is still likely to be a significant shortfall in this coverage.

4. People Implications

- 4.1** There are no personnel issues.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1** There are no financial implications.

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1** There is a risk that failure to deliver the Internal Audit Plan would result in an inability to provide assurances over the Council's system of internal financial control to those charged with governance. In addition, the Corporate Priority of Improving Governance & Resource Management could be compromised.

7. Equalities Impact

- 7.1** No significant issues are identified at this stage regarding potential equality impact of this report.

8. Conclusions and Recommendations

- 8.1** There are variances from the planned programme of work reported at this stage but it is not, as yet, having a significant adverse effect on the programme of risk based audits. There are staff challenges, as outlined in Section 3, but every effort will be made throughout the year to prioritise the workload to ensure coverage of the most relevant audit areas.
- 8.2** The Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

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David McMillan
Chief Executive
Date: 24 February 2011

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Appendix A: Internal Audit Report to 31 December 10

Background Papers: Audit & Performance Review Committee -
8 September 2010 Audit Plan 2010/11

Wards Affected: All Wards