

Eden District Council
Accounts and Governance Committee
30 July 2020

Internal Audit Update and Audit Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23

Portfolio:	None
Report from:	Interim Director of Corporate Services
Wards:	All Wards
OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To update on a change in the arrangements for the provision of the Internal Audit Service for the Council.
- 1.2 To seek approval for the Council's Internal Audit Annual Plan for 2020-2021. Under the Council's Constitution, approval of the Audit Plan rests with this Committee.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Audit Plan for 2020-2021, attached at Appendix A, is agreed.

3 Background

- 3.1 The Council's Audit Service up until recently had been provided through a hybrid arrangement between the Council's Senior Auditor and TIAA who are an external provider of Internal Audit services.
- 3.2 The responsibilities for delivering specific audits was split between both, which is an unusual arrangement. The Council's Senior Auditor has recently left the Council and the contract with TIAA has therefore been extended to cover the whole Internal Audit Service. This gives continuity and consistency in the work that is undertaken.

4 Report Details

- 4.1 The change in working arrangements has coincided with the Covid19 pandemic and collectively this has had an impact upon the delivery of Internal Audit and the ability to share between the Senior auditor and TIAA to report the final position at the end of the Financial Year. This will therefore be reported to the next meeting of the Committee.
- 4.2 TIAA have undertaken a risk based review to produce an Internal Audit Strategy and Plan for 2020/21 to 2022/23, which is set out at Appendix A.

5 Policy Framework

- 5.1 The Council has four corporate priorities which are:
 - Sustainable;
 - Healthy, Safe and Secure;
 - Connected; and
 - Creative.
- 5.2 This report meets the Quality Council corporate priority.

6 Consultation

- 6.1 There has been no consultation with Ward Councillors or Portfolio Holders.

7 Implications

7.1 Financial and Resources

7.1.1 Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the Council's stated priorities, as set out in its Council Plan 2019-2023, as agreed at Council on 7 November 2019.

7.1.2 There are no financial and resources implications.

7.2 Legal

7.2.1 There are no legal implications.

7.3 Human Resources

7.3.1 There are no human resources implications.

7.4 Statutory Considerations

Consideration:	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
Equality and Diversity	There are no implications
Health, Social Environmental and Economic Impact	There are no implications
Crime and Disorder	There are no implications
Children and Safeguarding	There are no implications

7.5 Risk Management

Risk	Consequence	Controls Required
Issues raised by Internal Audit are not appropriately actioned by management	Weak systems control, increased risk of theft and fraud.	Reporting of internal audit recommendations publicly to Committee and tracking implementation of these.
Audit programme slippage	Approved programme not delivered, resources not directed as planned and reported.	Regular reporting on internal audit progress.

8 Other Options Considered

8.1 No other options have been considered.

9 Reasons for the Decision/Recommendation

9.1 To keep Members updated on the progress with closedown and the external audit plan.

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix A – TIAA Internal Audit Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23

Contact Officer: Paul Sutton, Interim Director of Corporate Services