

AUDIT COMMITTEE - Internal Audit Progress Report for 2018/19 Quarter 2 (including the 2018/19 Quarter 3 IA Plan)

Committee name	Audit Committee
Officer reporting	Muir Laurie, Head of Business Assurance
Papers with report	Internal Audit Progress Report for Quarter 2 2018/19 & Internal Audit Plan for Quarter 3
Ward	All

HEADLINES

The attached report presents the Audit Committee with summary information on all Internal Audit (IA) work covered in 2018/19 Quarter 2 and assurance in this respect. It also provides an opportunity for the Head of Business Assurance (HBA) to highlight to the Audit Committee any significant issues that they need be aware of that have arisen since the last IA progress report.

Further, it enables the Audit Committee to hold the HBA to account on delivery of the IA Plan and facilitates in holding management to account for managing risk and control weaknesses identified during the course of IA activity.

Appended to this report is the IA Plan for Quarter 3 2018/19 which has been produced in consultation with senior managers and outlines the planned programme of IA work to be carried out within the next quarter.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Audit Committee:

- 1. Notes the IA Progress Report for 2018/19 Quarter 2 and consider the 2018/19 Quarter 3 IA Plan and, subject to any further minor amendments, approve it; and**
- 2. ensures that the coverage, performance and results of Business Assurance IA activity in this quarter are considered and any additional assurance requirements are communicated to the Head of Business Assurance.**

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

IA provides an independent appraisal and consultancy service that underpins good governance, which is essential in helping the Council achieve its strategic objectives and realise its vision for the borough of Hillingdon. It is also a requirement of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 that the Council undertakes an adequate and effective IA of its accounting records and of its system of internal control in accordance with proper practices.

The PSIAS, which came into force on the 1st April 2013, promote further improvement in the professionalism, quality, consistency and effectiveness of IA across the public sector. They stress the importance of robust, independent and objective IA arrangements to provide senior management with the key assurances they need to support them both in managing the organisation and in producing the Annual Governance Statement.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The Business Assurance service holds various background research documents in relation to the Quarter 3 IA Plan.