

Title: Internal Audit Annual Report 2022/23

Lead Officer: Richard Barr

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Chilvers

Wards of the District directly affected: None directly impacted

<b>Approvals required</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	12/09/23	Councillor Chilvers
<b>Finance</b>	12/09/23	Andrew Rollins
<b>Legal Services</b>	Not applicable	
<b>Chief Executive</b>	12/09/23	Chris Elliott
<b>Director of Climate Change</b>	Not applicable	
<b>Head of Service(s)</b>	12/09/23	Andrew Rollins
<b>Section 151 Officer</b>	12/09/23	Andrew Rollins
<b>Monitoring Officer</b>	12/09/23	Graham Leach
<b>Senior Leadership Team</b>	12/09/23	Various
<b>Final decision by this Committee or rec to another Cttee / Council?</b>	Yes / No – Final Decision by this Committee. Recommendation to: Cabinet / Council ..... Committee	
<b>Contrary to Policy / Budget framework?</b>	No/Yes	
<b>Does this report contain exempt info/Confidential? If so, which paragraph(s)?</b>	No/Yes, Paragraphs:	
<b>Does this report relate to a key decision (referred to in the Cabinet Forward Plan)?</b>	No/Yes, Forward Plan item – scheduled for ..... (date)	
<b>Accessibility Checked?</b>	Yes/No	

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## Summary

Forming part of the evidence for the Annual Governance Statement, the Internal Audit Annual Report presents a summary of the internal work undertaken during 2022/23 and provides a conclusion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the organisation's framework of governance, risk management and control.

## Recommendation

- 1 That this Committee should consider the Annual Report of Internal Audit for the year ended 31 March 2023 as part of its consideration and approval of the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23.
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### 1 Reason for the Recommendations

- 1.1 Forming part of the evidence for the Annual Governance Statement, the Internal Audit Annual Report presents a summary of the internal work undertaken during 2022/23 and provides a conclusion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the organisation's framework of governance, risk management and control. The Committee is required to consider the Annual Report of Internal Audit for the year ended 31 March 2023 as part of its consideration and approval of the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23. This is because the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards require that "The 'chief audit executive' must deliver an annual internal audit opinion and report that can be used by the organisation to inform its governance statement."

### 2 Background/Information

- 2.1 The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards state:

*The chief audit executive must deliver an annual internal audit opinion and report that can be used by the organisation to inform its governance statement.*

*The annual internal audit opinion must conclude on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the organisation's framework of governance, risk management and control.*

*The annual report must incorporate:*

- *the opinion;*
- *a summary of the work that supports the opinion; and*
- *a statement on conformance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and the results of the quality assurance and improvement programme.*

- 2.2 The Annual Report, in the format and comprising the topics prescribed by the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards, is set out as Appendix 1.

### 3 Alternative Options

- 3.1 The report is not based on 'project appraisal' so this section is not applicable.

### 4 Legal Implications

- 4.1 Not applicable.

## **5 Financial Implications**

5.1 Not applicable.

## **6 Business Strategy**

6.1 Warwick District Council has adopted a Business Strategy that sets out key areas for service delivery.

6.2 Although there are no direct policy implications, internal audit is an essential part of corporate governance and will be a major factor in shaping the Policy Framework and Council policies.

## **7 Environmental/Climate Change Implications**

7.1 An effective internal audit function can assist the Council achieve its environmental and climate emergency objectives.

## **8 Analysis of the Effects on Equality**

8.1 An effective internal audit function can help the Council achieve its equality obligations.

## **9 Data Protection**

9.1 An effective internal audit function can help the Council achieve its data protection objectives.

## **10 Health and Wellbeing**

10.1 An effective internal audit function can help the Council achieve its health and wellbeing objectives.

## **11 Risk Assessment**

11.1 The whole report is about risks and the risk environment. Clearly there are governance-related risks associated with weak internal control, risk management and governance processes.

## **12 Consultation**

12.1 No external consultation was required.

### **Background papers:**

All Papers referred to in this report are published documents.

### **Supporting documents:**

Internal Audit Plan.

Internal Audit Reports.