

 <b>Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee</b> <b>30 August 2017</b>		<b>Agenda Item No. 6</b>
<b>Title</b>	Internal Audit Strategic Plan 2017/18 – 2019/20: ICT Update	
<b>For further information about this report please contact</b>	Richard Barr Tel: (01926) 456815 email: richard.barr@warwickdc.gov.uk	
<b>Service Area</b>	Finance	
<b>Wards of the District directly affected</b>	Not applicable	
<b>Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006</b>	No	
<b>Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number</b>	Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee – 4 April 2017	
<b>Background Papers</b>	Internal Audit risk assessment file; SMT minutes	

<b>Contrary to the policy framework?</b>	No
<b>Contrary to the budgetary framework?</b>	No
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)</b>	No
<b>Equality &amp; Sustainability Impact Assessment Undertaken?</b>	N/A: no direct service implications

<b>Officer/Councillor Approval</b>		
With regard to officer approval all reports <i>must</i> be approved by the report author's relevant director, Finance, Legal Services and the relevant Portfolio Holder(s).		
<b>Officer Approval</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
Chief Executive	16 Aug 2017	Chris Elliott
CMT	16 Aug 2017	CMT
SMT	16 Aug 2017	SMT
Section 151 Officer	16 Aug 2017	Mike Snow
Monitoring Officer	16 Aug 2017	Andrew Jones
Finance	16 Aug 2017	As Section 151 Officer
Portfolio Holder	21 Aug 2017	Councillor Whiting
<b>Consultation and Community Engagement</b>		
Consultation with managers and the Council's external auditors.		
<b>Final Decision?</b>	Yes	
<b>Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)</b>		

## 1 **Summary**

- 1.1 The report presents the ICT audits element of the Internal Audit Strategic Plan 2017/18 – 2019/20.

## 2 **Recommendation**

- 2.1 That Members consider and approve the plan for undertaking ICT audits over the period 2017/18 – 2019/20.

## 3 **Reason for the Recommendation**

- 3.1 The Internal Audit Strategic Plan is an important element in providing the required independent and objective opinion to the organisation on its control environment, in fulfilment of statutory duties.

## 4 **Policy Framework**

- 4.1 Although there are no direct policy implications, Internal Audit provides a view on all aspects of governance and will take into account the Council's policies.

## 5 **Budgetary Framework**

- 5.1 Although there are no direct budgetary implications arising from this report, Internal Audit provides a view on all aspects of governance including that of the Budgetary Framework. An effective control framework ensures that the Authority manages its resources and achieves its objectives economically, efficiently and effectively.

## 6 **Risks**

- 6.1 Internal Audit provides a view on all aspects of governance, including corporate and service arrangements for managing risks.
- 6.2 It is impractical to provide a commentary on risks as the report is concerned with the provision of reviews by Internal Audit of other services. Having said that, there are clear risks to the Council in not dealing with issues raised within Internal Audit reports and there is an overarching risk associated with the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee not fulfilling its role properly e.g. not scrutinising this report robustly.

## 7 **Background**

- 7.1 The Internal Audit Strategic Plan 2017/18 to 2019/20 was approved by the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee on 4 April 2017.
- 7.2 At that time, proposals for undertaking ICT audits had not been concluded and so, pending detailed proposals, the Strategic Plan included only a broad allocation of time for ICT-based audits.
- 7.3 Since then a plan for obtaining assurance on the ICT environment has been finalised. Thus the ICT audits planned over the 3-year period 2017/18 to 2019/20 are set out in the attached appendix.

- 7.4 The ICT audit plan has been compiled by the Council's ICT audit contractor, TIAA.
- 7.5 A specialist contractor is required because of the complexity inherent in ICT functions and their importance to the operation of the Council. It is not cost-effective for the Council to employ its own internal audit resource in this particular area.
- 7.6 The Plan has been produced in consultation with ICT Services. To maintain independence and objectivity, the exercise was led by the contractor.
- 7.7 The audits set out in the first year of the plan will be undertaken by TIAA.
- 7.8 The contractor for years 2 and 3 will be determined following the re-procurement of the ICT audit contract at the end of this financial year.
- 7.9 The Committee will receive reports on the outcome of the audit assignments as part of the quarterly reporting process.