

Audit, Risk and Governance Committee
Meeting to be held on Monday, 27 July 2020

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Internal Audit Annual Report 2019/20
Appendix A refers

Contact for further information:
Ruth Lowry, (01772) 534898, Head of Internal Audit, Ruth.lowry@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

The committee has considered periodic reports of progress during the year but has not received any information since January 2020. Audit work undertaken throughout the year supports the conclusion that moderate assurance can be provided over the county council's systems of governance, risk management and internal control. This report summarises the work that the Internal Audit Service has undertaken during 2019/20 and the key themes arising in relation to governance, risk management and internal control across the county council.

The annual report to Lancashire County Council is appended to this report as Appendix A. Annex A sets out all the work planned for the year and the assurance provided by each individual internal audit assignment, Annex B sets out summaries of the findings of each audit, Annex C sets out the definitions of the assurance provided and Annex D explains the scope of internal audit work, management and audit's responsibilities.

Recommendation

The committee is asked to consider and note this report and the information it provides to support the county council's annual governance statement for the year.

Background and Advice

The Internal Audit Service is an assurance function that provides an independent and objective opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the county council's control environment. The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors (CIIA) require the head of internal audit to provide an opinion on the county council's control environment and a written report to those charged with governance, timed to support the annual governance statement.

Consultations

Except as specifically reported, the findings presented in this report have been discussed with the council's senior managers and directors.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

This report supports the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee in undertaking its role, which includes providing independent oversight of the adequacy of the council's frameworks of governance, risk management and internal control.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
-------	------	-------------

None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

Not applicable