

16 JANUARY 2019

REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL AUDIT AND
APPOINTMENT OF AN INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2019/20

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 This report asks the Committee to confirm the existing internal audit arrangements.

2.0 Background

2.1 The Internal Auditor provides assurance for the Council's Annual Governance Statement, based on an assessment of risk and supports the Council's work in delivering improved services to the community.

2.2 The Town Council's Internal Auditors are Lightatouch Internal Audit Services.

2.3 The Council each year confirms the effectiveness of its system of internal audit.

3.0 Effectiveness of the System of Internal Audit

3.1 An annual review of Internal Audit, although no longer a statutory requirement, should cover the scope of internal audit, independence, competence, relationships and audit planning and reporting.

3.2 The current Internal Auditors are very experienced and undertake three visits each financial year. They follow a testing strategy as set out in the NALC Governance and Accountability guidance. This covers areas including book keeping and year end procedures. A report on each visit is presented to the Best Value and Scrutiny Sub Committee. At the end of the year, the Auditors make an annual report, as part of the Annual Governance Statement. The Auditors also maintain and update the Financial Risk Assessment.

3.3 It is considered that existing audit arrangements can be confirmed for 2019/20.

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 The Committee is asked to recommend that the existing internal audit arrangements continue for 2019/20.

9 January 2019

Will Austin
Town Clerk