



AUDIT COMMITTEE

Subject Heading:

Head of Assurance –
Quarter Four Progress Report 2017/18

SLT Lead:

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Report Author and contact details:

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Policy context:

To inform the Committee of progress on the assurance work undertaken in quarter four of 2017/18.

Financial summary:

There are none arising directly from this report which is for noting and/or providing an opportunity for questions to be raised

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering	[X]
Places making Havering	[X]
Opportunities making Havering	[X]
Connections making Havering	[X]

SUMMARY

This report advises the Committee on the work undertaken by the Assurance Service (internal audit & counter fraud) during quarter four of 2017/18.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To note the contents of the report.
2. To raise any issues of concern and ask specific questions of officers where required.

REPORT DETAIL

This progress report contains an update to the Committee regarding Internal Audit and Counter Fraud activity. The report is presented in three sections:

- Section 1** Introduction, Issues and Assurance Opinion
- Section 2** Executive Summary: A summary of the key messages from quarter four.
- Section 3 Appendices:** Provide supporting detail for Members' information
- Appendix A:** Detail of quarter four Internal Audit work
- Appendix B:** Limited Assurance Report Summaries
- Appendix C:** Detail of quarter four Counter Fraud work
- Appendix D:** Current status of 2017/18 audit plan

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

There are none arising directly from this report which is for noting and/or providing an opportunity for questions to be raised.

By maintaining an adequate internal audit service, management are supported in the effective identification and efficient management of risks and ultimately good governance. Failure to maximise the performance of the service may lead to losses caused by insufficient or ineffective controls or even failure to achieve objectives where risks are not mitigated. In addition recommendations may arise from any audit work undertaken and managers have the opportunity of commenting on these before they are finalised. In accepting audit recommendations, the managers are obliged to consider financial risks and costs associated with the implications of the recommendations. Managers are also required to identify implementation dates and then put in place appropriate actions to ensure these are achieved. Failure to either implement at all or meet the target date may have control implications, although these would be highlighted by any subsequent audit work. Such failures may result in financial losses for the Council.

Legal implications and risks:

None arising directly from this report.

Human Resources implications and risks:

None arising directly from this report.

Equalities implications and risks:

None arising directly from this report.