

Audit and Governance Committee Report



27 January 2014

Report of: **Strategic Director**

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To: **Audit and Governance Committee**

Date: **27 January 2014**

Actions arising

Recommendation

That members note the content of the report and remove the completed actions where recommended.

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to respond on actions arising from previous committee meetings.

Strategic objectives

2. To assist the council to manage its business effectively by providing an assurance framework to monitor the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the internal control environment.

Actions arising

(a) Internal audit activity report fourth quarter 2012/13	Committee Date – 20 March 2013
The committee asked the officers to report on the ways in which the council's insurance officer advises Wantage Civic Hall staff of the insurance arrangements in place and to consider if such communications should be enhanced in any way.	
Comment Accountancy discuss and confirm insurance arrangements with each head of service annually. Accountancy will respond to specific questions regarding these arrangements but does not have the	Action Recommend remove from actions arising list.

resource to engage with every operational team.	
(b) Internal audit activity – first quarter 2013/14	Committee Date – 24 June 2013
The committee agreed to monitor the systemic control weaknesses carefully.	
Comment The committee agreed to monitor the systemic control weaknesses to assess whether improvements are being made and if not, to determine a course of action. This is ongoing and is contained in the internal audit activity report to each committee meeting.	Action Recommend remove from actions arising list.
(c) External auditor’s report	Committee Date – 24 June 2013
The committee asked the strategic director to consider consulting on the public’s comprehension of council financial information.	
Comment The strategic director will consider using the citizens’ panel to assess comprehension of financial information.	Action Recommend retain on this actions arising list.
(d) Internal audit management report – second quarter 2013/14	Committee Date – 23 September 2013
The committee asked the audit manager to investigate alternative software to redesign the audit plan schedule, so that it shows progress on each audit, and estimates completion time.	
Comment Alternative software not used by the council. However, the audit manager will amend the schedule to use the ‘exceptions’ column in appendix 1 of the report to explain any variances from the original plan. The audit manager will report at the meeting.	Action Recommend remove from actions arising list.
(e) Audit and governance work programme	Committee Date – 23 September 2013
The committee asked the officers to report in January 2014 on progress made with the implementation of the new computerised asset management system.	
Comment Bob Watson to update the Committee in January.	Action Recommend remove from actions arising list.

STEVE BISHOP
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR