

Internal Audit Update – September 2018

1. Purpose

This report provides the Audit Committee with an update on work undertaken since the last report was considered in June 2018.

2. Background

Many financial activities transferred from Northampton Borough Council to LGSS during 2013-14 financial year. It was agreed with the S151 Officer and the Councils then internal auditors (PwC) that where LGSS have the responsibility to undertake the functions, LGSS Internal Audit would complete the assurance work, whilst PwC would continue to audit those aspects which remain in the direct control of the council.

3. Update

A summary of planned / actual work for 2018-19 along with the status of such work is detailed in the table below.

AUDIT TITLE	STATUS	PROGRESS	Planned / Actual Start Date	Assurance Rating
2017-18 Plan				
Fixed Asset	Open	Draft Report	May 2018	
2018-19 Plan				
Quarterly Balance Sheet Review	Open	Planning	September 2018	
Accounts Receivable	Open	Planning	September 2018	
Housing Benefits			December 2018	
Agresso IT Application Review			January 2019	
Follow up Work				
Council Tax	Open	Fieldwork	August 2018	
Business Rates			October 2018	
Accounts Payable	Open	Fieldwork	August 2018	

In considering the table above, the following points are noted:

- 2017-18 Plan – The fixed asset audit was delayed as the team responsible for maintaining the Council's Fixed Asset Register have prioritised work on attempting to resolve issues arising from the 2016-17 accounts. A draft report including response to findings has been agreed by LGSS and has been forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer and Governance and Risk Manager to ensure any Council comments are reflected in the final report.

- 2018-19 Plan – As outlined in the table above, no work was planned to be completed in the period April to July 2018. We are currently working with the Governance and Risk Manager to agree the scopes for planned reviews to ensure they reflect the requirements of the Council.
- Follow up Work – The timing of the follow up work is based on the agreed timescales for implementing audit recommendations reflected in the original audit report. Our approach to follow up work is to seek an update from the designated responsible officer as well as evidence to support that the action has been implemented. Before any recommendation is assessed as completed, the information provided is assessed by Internal Audit and where appropriate may involve audit testing to validate action taken.

The findings from such work will be considered by the Audit Committee during the rest of 2018-19.

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