



Agenda Item: 5

#### **INTERNAL AUDIT DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19**

To: Audit & Accounts Committee

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019

From: LGSS Chief Internal Auditor

Purpose: The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards

require that the Chief Internal Auditor presents an annual report to the Authority's Audit & Accounts Committee. This is reflected in the terms of reference of the Authority's Audit &

**Accounts Committee.** 

The purpose is for Audit & Accounts Committee to consider the Annual Internal Audit Report for 2018 – 19 and be made aware of the Chief Internal Auditor's opinion on the state of the Internal Control Framework within

Cambridgeshire County Council.

The final version of this report will submitted alongside the Annual Governance Statement at

the July Audit & Accounts Committee.

Key issues: The Annual Internal Audit Report forms part of

the evidence that supports the Authority's Annual Governance Statement 2018 – 19.

Recommendation: Audit & Accounts Committee is requested to

consider and note the DRAFT Annual Internal

Audit Report.

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## INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE

# DRAFT INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19





### LGSS Internal Audit & Risk Management Draft Annual Report 2018/19

#### **Cambridgeshire County Council**

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Annual Reporting Process
- 1.1.1 The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) (Performance Standard 2450) state that the Chief Audit Executive (CAE) must deliver an annual internal audit opinion and report that can be used by the organisation to inform its annual governance statement (AGS) that forms part of the Council's official accounts. Cambridgeshire County Council's Chief Audit Executive is the LGSS Chief Internal Auditor.
- 1.1.2 The annual report is required to incorporate the opinion; a summary of the work that supports the opinion; and a statement on conformance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and the results of the quality assurance and improvement plan.

#### 2. CHIEF INTERNAL AUDITOR OPINION 2018/19

- 2.1 Chief Internal Auditor Opinion
- 2.1.1 The annual opinion of the Chief Audit Executive (CAE) must be based on an objective assessment of the framework of governance, risk management and control and include an evaluation of the adequacy and effectiveness of controls in responding to risks within the organisation's governance, operations and information systems.
- 2.1.2 My opinion is derived from an assessment of the range of individual opinions arising from assignments contained within the risk-based Internal Audit Plan. This assessment has taken account of the relative materiality of these areas, and management's progress in addressing control weaknesses.
- 2.1.3 Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) also require the CAE to confirm that the Internal Audit service has operated with an adequate level of resource to deliver an annual audit opinion. Internal Audit operates independent of the organisation, as per the Internal Audit Strategy and Charter, and there have been no compromises of Internal Audit's independence in its operation this year. I confirm that the above was compliant with PSIAS requirements.

On the basis of the audit work undertaken during the 2018/19 financial year, an opinion of **satisfactory** assurance is awarded. The internal control environment (including the key financial systems, risk and governance) has been subject to significant changes during the year with the introduction of ERP Gold and there have been areas and periods where compliance with these new procedures and systems has required improvement.





Although there are currently no outstanding significant issues arising from the work undertaken by Internal Audit, there are important recommendations contained in the key financial systems audits that will be followed up in 2019/20.

It should be noted that no systems of control can provide absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss, nor can Internal Audit give that assurance.

Although the level of assurance has decreased from 2016/17 there has been significant change to key systems within the year and management has responded positively to recommendations made by Internal Audit to strengthen identified areas of concern.

Duncan Wilkinson FCMA CGMA Chief Internal Auditor

#### 3. REVIEW OF INTERNAL CONTROL

- 3.1 How Internal Control is reviewed
- 3.1.1 In order to support the annual Internal Audit opinion on the internal control environment, each year Internal Audit develops a risk-based Audit Plan. This includes a comprehensive range of work to confirm that all assurances provided as part of the system of internal audit can be relied upon by stakeholders.
- 3.1.2 The changing public sector environment and emergence of new risks increasingly necessitates a flexible approach and re-evaluation of the Audit Plan throughout the year. In 2018, revisions to reflect the changing risk profile of the organisation were approved on an ongoing basis throughout the year by SMT and the Audit and Accounts Committee.
- 3.1.3 Each Internal Audit review has three key elements. Firstly, the control environment is reviewed by identifying the objectives of the system and then assessing the controls in place mitigating the risk of those objectives not being achieved. Completion of this work enables Internal Audit to give an assurance on the control environment.
- 3.1.4 However, controls are not always complied with, which will in itself increase risk, so the second part of an audit is to ascertain the extent to which the controls are being complied with in practice. This enables Internal Audit to give an opinion on the extent to which the control environment, designed to mitigate risk, is being complied with.
- 3.1.5 Finally, where there are significant control environment weaknesses or where key controls are not being complied with, further substantive testing is





undertaken to ascertain the impact these control weaknesses are likely to have on the organisation's control environment as a whole.

3.1.6 Three assurance opinions are therefore given at the conclusion of each audit: control environment assurance, compliance assurance, and organisational impact. To ensure consistency in reporting, the following definitions of audit assurance are used:

| Control Environment Assurance |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Level                         | Definitions  |  |  |
| Substantial                   | There are minimal control weaknesses that present very low risk to the control environment                     |  |  |
| Good                          | There are minor control weaknesses that present low risk to the control environment                            |  |  |
| Satisfactory                  | There are some control weaknesses that present a medium risk to the control environment                        |  |  |
| Limited                       | There are significant control weaknesses that present a high risk to the control environment.                  |  |  |
| No Assurance                  | There are fundamental control weaknesses that present an unacceptable level of risk to the control environment |  |  |

|              | Compliance Assurance  |  |  |  |
|--------------|---|--|--|--|
| Level        | Definitions   |  |  |  |
| Substantial  | The control environment has substantially operated as intended although some minor errors have been detected. |  |  |  |
| Good         | The control environment has largely operated as intended although some errors have been detected              |  |  |  |
| Satisfactory | The control environment has mainly operated as intended although errors have been detected.                   |  |  |  |
| Limited      | The control environment has not operated as intended. Significant errors have been detected.                  |  |  |  |
| No Assurance | The control environment has fundamentally broken down and is open to significant error or abuse.              |  |  |  |

3.1.7 Organisational impact will be reported as major, moderate or minor (as defined below). All reports with major organisation impacts are reported to Strategic Management Team (SMT), along with the agreed action plan.





|          | Organisational Impact   |  |  |  |
|----------|---|--|--|--|
| Level    | Definitions   |  |  |  |
| Major    | The weaknesses identified during the review have left the           |  |  |  |
|          | Council open to significant risk. If the risk materialises it would |  |  |  |
|          | have a major impact upon the organisation as a whole                |  |  |  |
| Moderate | The weaknesses identified during the review have left the           |  |  |  |
|          | Council open to medium risk. If the risk materialises it would      |  |  |  |
|          | have a moderate impact upon the organisation as a whole             |  |  |  |
| Minor    | The weaknesses identified during the review have left the           |  |  |  |
|          | Council open to low risk. This could have a minor impact on         |  |  |  |
|          | the organisation as a whole.  |  |  |  |

#### 3.2 The Basis of Assurance

- 3.2.1 The findings and assurance levels provided by the reviews undertaken throughout 2018/19 by Internal Audit form the basis of the annual opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the control environment.
- 3.2.2 In 2018/19, the Audit Plan has been based on assurance blocks that each give an opinion on the key control environment elements, targeted towards in-year risks, rather than a more traditional cyclical approach that looks at each system over a number of years. The Audit Plan reflects the environment in which the public sector audit operates, recognising that this has changed considerably over the past few years with more focus on, for example, transformation, contract management, safeguarding and achieving value for money.

#### 4. INTERNAL AUDIT IN 2018/19

- 4.1 Overview and Key Findings
- 4.1.1 This section provides information on the audit reviews carried out in 2018-19, by assurance block.
- 4.1.2 In each instance where it has been identified that the control environment was not strong enough, or was not complied with sufficiently to prevent risks to the organisation, Internal Audit has issued recommendations to further improve the system of control and compliance. Where these recommendations are considered to have significant impact on the system of internal control, the implementation of actions is followed-up by Internal Audit and is reported to Audit and Accounts Committee on a quarterly basis. An overview of the implementation of actions in 2018-19 is summarised in Table 1, below¹:

<sup>1</sup> Please note that the total reflects the number of recommendations required to be implemented within 2018-19, and therefore includes recommendations made in 2017-18.





Table 1: Implementation of Audit Recommendations 2018-19

|   | Category 'Red' recommendations | Category 'Amber' recommendations | Total |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|
| Agreed and implemented.   | 0                              | 44                               | 44    |
| Agreed and due within the last 3 months, but not yet implemented. | 0                              | 4                                | 4     |
| Agreed and due over 3 months ago, but not yet implemented.        | 0                              | 8                                | 8     |
| TOTAL   | 0                              | 56                               | 56    |

4.1.3 In addition to the actions shown in the table above, Internal Audit has also followed-up the implementation of 66 actions arising from the PKF investigation into Community Transport, throughout 2018/19. Of these actions reported to Audit & Accounts Committee in July 2018, only 7 actions (11%) have yet to be completed, and all of these are in progress. Full details may be found reported in the separate Community Transport Update report to Committee.

#### 4.2 Financial and Other Key Systems

- 4.2.1 This is the 2018/19 suite of annual core systems reviews, undertaken to provide assurance to management and External Audit that expected controls are in place for key financial systems; that these controls are adequately designed and are routinely complied with in practice. The work is focused on the systems that have the highest financial risk; these are agreed in advance with External Audit and assist in providing assurance to External Audit that systems recording transactions within the 2018/19 financial year are free from material misstatement. These reviews also give an opinion as to the effectiveness of financial management procedures and the arrangements to ensure the integrity of accounts.
- 4.2.2 During 2018/19 the audits were again undertaken as joint reviews of Cambridgeshire County Council and Northamptonshire County Council LGSS systems.





- 4.2.3 The year saw the introduction of ERP Gold which was a significant business change for some key financial systems of the Council. It was likely that major new systems and the required changes to governance arrangements would increase the risk to the Council in the short term whilst new ways of working were embedded. Consequently internal audit completed significant testing in quarters 2 and 3 to ensure any issues were being identified and addressed in a timely manner, making recommendations where required.
- 4.2.4 In quarter four, the key systems were subject to a final audit and the opinions below are based on the systems at that review although organisational impact is assessed on the impact on the Council at year end. This work has not been fully completed at the time of writing this report although emerging opinions have been considered and have informed the overall Chief Internal Auditor opinion at 2.3 above. There will also be a number of new recommendations emerging from these final reports that will be added to the summary shown in table 1, 4.1.3 of this report. Internal audit will include a summary of these reports at the appropriate Audit & Accounts Committee following completion.
- 4.2.5 Audit coverage during the year has provided sufficient evidence to conclude that the key financial control systems are satisfactory and that these controls are increasingly working well in practice although there are some key areas where improvements have been recommended. The level of assurance provided for key financial systems has reduced this year which has had a direct impact on the reduction in the overall opinion on the governance arrangements for the Council for 2018/19. There are, however, important recommendations that will require addressing and these will be followed up early in the 2019/20 financial year to ensure implementation.
- 4.2.6 Table 2 below details the assurance levels of all key systems audits undertaken in 2018/19, compared to the assurance levels in 2017/18. Where audits are marked with an asterisk, this indicates that the report is at draft stage at the time of writing, but the emerging opinion is included:

Table 2 – Key Financial Systems Audits 2018/19

| Key Financial<br>Systems: | Audit Opinion 2018-19 |             | Audit Opinion 2017-18 |             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
|                           | Environment           | Compliance  | Environment           | Compliance  |
| <b>Treasury</b>           | In progress           | In progress | Substantial           | Substantial |
| Management*               |                       |             |                       |             |
| <mark>Bank</mark>         | Substantial           | Substantial | Substantial           | Substantial |
| Reconciliation*           |                       |             |                       |             |





| Purchase to    | Satisfactory | Satisfactory | Substantial  | Substantial  |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Pay            |              |              |              |              |
| Accounts       | Satisfactory | Satisfactory | Good         | Good         |
| Receivable     |              |              |              |              |
| Debt Recovery  | Limited      | Limited      | N/A          | N/A          |
|                |              |              |              |              |
| Payroll*       | Satisfactory | Satisfactory | Substantial  | Substantial  |
| Pensions       | Substantial  | Substantial  | Substantial  | Substantial  |
| <b>General</b> | Satisfactory | Satisfactory | Good         | Good         |
| Ledger*        |              |              |              |              |
| IT General     | Satisfactory | Satisfactory | Substantial  | Satisfactory |
| Controls       | Satisfactory | Satisfactory | Substatitial | Satisfactory |

- 4.2.7 For the Accounts Payable review, the reduced level of assurance compared to 2017/18 relate to several findings throughout the year. One significant factor was the occurrence of duplicate payments, although it is important to note that these were not due to fundamental system control weaknesses but rather manual error/intervention. In addition, the recent implementation of specialist software to identify/prevent duplicate payments should significantly reduce the potential for duplicate payments in the future. Other issues were identified in relation to the supplier amend and manual processes. A lack of compliance with purchasing procedures was identified, namely retrospective purchase orders, but this has reduced during the year.
- 4.2.8 The review of the Accounts Receivable system identified that reporting and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in relation to the clearance of suspense items needed to be developed although Internal Audit analysis found that significant volumes of items were cleared each month. In addition, a customisation of the system functionality designed to allocate part payments to invoices did not operate as intended and had to be turned off in June 2018.
- 4.2.9 The review of the Debt Recovery system identified that debt reporting needs to be improved, particularly in relation to debt trends, supporting narrative and causal factors as Internal Audit analysis identified that debt and aged debt levels remain high and that as at February 2019 no write offs had been processed since the start of the year. The review also identified that automated reminder letters were in use and manual letters were not being issued in a timely manner.

#### 4.3 Compliance

4.3.1 Compliance work is fundamental, as it provides assurance across all Directorates and therefore has a significant influence on the Annual Audit





Opinion on the control environment. The audit coverage for compliance is underpinned by an assessment of the Council's framework of controls (often directed by policies and procedures) and includes a focus on those core areas where a high level of compliance is necessary for the organisation to carry out its functions properly. The work involves compliance checks across the organisation to provide assurance on whether key policies and procedures are being complied with in practice. As a part of this work, the existing controls are challenged to ensure that they are modern, effective and proportionate.

- 4.3.2 As well as a range of procurement compliance reviews, discussed below at 4.4, the Plan for 2018/19 included coverage of compliance in the following areas:
  - Compliance with Agency Staff policies and procedures;
  - Compliance with policies around performance management;
  - Compliance with the Fees and Charges Policy;
  - Compliance with the Grants to External Organisations Policy;
  - Compliance with Direct Payments processes;
  - Compliance with policies and procedures regarding Libraries Income;
  - Compliance with the Council's policies on use of consultants;
  - Officer compliance with the Council's policies on account coding on the Financial Ledger;
  - · Compliance with annual assurance on Risk Management
- 4.3.3 Compliance reviews on Accuracy of Account Coding on Financial Ledger and Use of Consultants received a limited assurance. Where weaknesses have been identified, recommendations have been made to improve compliance and/or procedures and controls; all recommendations which are considered to be of medium or high impact on the control environment are followed up by Internal Audit to ensure they have been implemented.
- 4.4 Risk-Based Reviews
- 4.4.1 Risk-based reviews have been a key element of the assurance on the entire control environment of the authority in 2018/19. This assurance block includes reviews which have been targeted towards key areas of high risk, as identified through consultation with senior management, review of risk registers, and the Internal Audit risk assessment of the organisation. This block also incorporates on-going work on initiatives to promote value for money. Each audit we undertake includes consideration of value for money at its core.
- 4.4.2 Risk-based reviews have been successful in identifying value-for money recommendations and savings. The Internal Audit review of Foster Care





Payments identified £95,976 of overpayments or payments outside of policy which may be recoverable, and highlighted a potential saving of c. £390,000 through reducing payments to Independent Fostering Agencies where hometo-school transport is already provided by the Council.

- 4.4.3 The outcomes of all risk-based reviews issued in 2018/19 can be seen at Appendix 1.
- 4.5 Procurement and Contracts Reviews
- 4.5.1 In 2018/19, Internal Audit has provided reviews of a number of major contracts, including the Highways Service Contract, Section 75 Agreement within Public Health, and the contract with Coram Cambridgeshire Adoption. Reviews in key high-value contract areas will continue into the 2019/20 financial year.
- 4.5.2 Other areas of procurement and contract management were also considered, including the Impact of Price & Quality in Tender Evaluation, and Transport Contract Management. In addition, a number of cross-cutting reviews have been undertaken, with a focus on key aspects of the Council's procurement framework, including:
  - A review of compliance with European Union (EU) Procurement Regulations;
  - A review of compliance with the Council's procurement regulations.
- 4.5.3 In line with the findings from 2017/18, these reviews highlighted weak compliance with the processes for procurement exemption requests. A number of actions to address this have been agreed, including review of guidance documents and changes to the online exemption form, and awareness-raising on the Council's intranet has been undertaken. Procurement audit work in 2019/20 will continue to review this risk area to assess the effectiveness of these changes in improving compliance.
- 4.6 Anti-Fraud and Corruption
- 4.6.1 This is a high-risk area across the public sector. LGSS Internal Audit undertakes work on anti-fraud and corruption, which includes both reactive and pro-active elements, along with a number of initiatives to raise awareness of the council's anti- fraud and corruption culture and to report on the arrangements in place, and pro-active fraud strategy work.
- 4.6.2 Following on from the 2017/18 launch of a new whistleblowing policy, 2018/19 has seen the policy launched online with publicity on the Council's intranet, public website and internal newsletters. This included a poster campaign to raise awareness of the whistleblowing policy and distribution of





leaflets in public areas including schools. The Whistleblowing Policy and Managers Guidance was revised and updated in January 2019. Updates included revision of some of the wording of the policy and improvement to the policy and guidance itself. In line with the revised policy and guidance, a staff survey was rolled out. The results of this survey were positive with 93% staff indicating that they were aware of the policy and 91% confirmed they would feel confident in raising a serious concern (based on 43 responses). The response rate of officers responding to the survey doubled from the previous survey in 2017/18, which is also a positive sign that staff are seeking to engage with the policy.

4.6.4 Details of specific cases have been reported to the Audit and Accounts Committee throughout the year. In addition to the full investigations outlined in Table 3 below, advice and guidance is provided to officers on an ad-hoc basis.

Table 3 - Investigations 2018-19

| Type of referral  | No.<br>referrals | Outcomes   |
|---|------------------|--|
| Concerns regarding financial irregularities or theft in schools | 2                | One case was reported to Section 151 Officer. S151 decided to take no further action as the concern was extremely low-level. In the other case, Internal Audit provided advice regarding appropriate financial processes.                |
| Misuse of Blue Badges   | 21               | 10 cases closed with badge withdrawn. 11 closed with no fraud.   |
| Misuse of Travel Passes   | 21               | 11 found to have no fraud or no further action. 2 closed with advice given. 7 closed with pass withdrawn and 1 closed and passed to the Department for Work & Pensions for investigation.  |
| Safeguarding concerns   | 3                | IA maintained an oversight of these rather than IA investigation: rather than IA investigation:  - 2 issues resolved via line management - 1 case referred to Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub and Police who subsequently closed the case. |
| Non-CCC Whistleblowing  | 3                | 2 Issues reported to the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) and Education Skills Funding Agency as related to Academies. The 3 <sup>rd</sup> case is ongoing in regard to a Council contractor.                                  |
| Concerns in relation to asset disposal.                         | 1                | Internal Audit led review. No fraud or wrongdoing was identified but a number of actions have been agreed to strengthen processes.   |





| Request for investigation | 1 | Internal Audit were commissioned by Audit &    |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| into County Farms         |   | Accounts Committee to investigate a Farm       |
| tenancy.                  |   | Tenancy. This review is currently ongoing.     |
| Concerns around           | 5 | All cases were referred to Internal Audit's    |
| suspected fraud/theft in  |   | Counter Fraud team to provide advice,          |
| Council services.         |   | including supporting a police referral in one  |
|                           |   | instance.                                      |
| Concerns relating to HR   | 2 | In both instances, following initial           |
| issues or management.     |   | information-gathering, Internal Audit referred |
|                           |   | the cases to Human Resources (HR) and they     |
|                           |   | were addressed with no further action          |
|                           |   | required from Internal Audit.                  |

- 4.6.5 The National Fraud Initiative (NFI) data matching exercise was carried out for Cambridgeshire County Council in October 2018. This statutory exercise involves a data-matching exercise between public and private sector bodies to prevent and detect fraud.
- 4.6.6 A significant amount of time throughout 2018/19 was spent supporting the external investigation into allegations against community transport operators. This included supporting the collection and provision of evidence, as well as providing an interim report into control weaknesses identified as a result of evidence collection.
- 4.7 Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Information Governance
- 4.7.1 Internal Audit work is ongoing in this area and outcomes will be reported to the Audit & Accounts Committee as soon as possible.
- 4.8 Grants and Other Assurances
- 4.8.1 Internal Audit testing again confirmed that grants received by Cambridgeshire County Council requiring review and certification by Internal Audit have been spent in accordance with grant conditions, including the troubled families grant process.
- 4.9 Policies and Procedures
- 4.9.1 In 2018/19, Internal Audit has maintained a focus on review of key policies and procedures, to ensure that these are: up to date; fit for purpose; effectively communicated; routinely complied with across the organisation; monitored and routinely improved. This has included a revision of the Council's Whistleblowing Policy.
- 4.9.2 In addition to work which focuses specifically on individual Council policies and procedures, every risk-based audit review undertaken considers the





current policies and procedures in the service area under review, and audit recommendations include suggested revisions or updates to policies as appropriate.

#### 4.10 Other Work

- 4.10.1 Internal Audit continues to provide advice and guidance to officers on a wide range of issues, including the interpretation of Council policies and procedures, risks and controls within systems or processes, and ad-hoc guidance on queries relating to projects or transformation. Internal Audit aims to provide clear advice and risk-based recommendations with a view to reducing bureaucracy whilst maintaining a robust control environment. Where appropriate, we also refer queries or concerns on to specialist services such as Information Governance or IT Security.
- 4.10.2 Internal Audit also leads on co-ordinating risk management work across the organisation. In 2019/20 the team worked with the Risk Champions to complete the actions from the external risk management health check review by the Council's insurers, Zurich. The team has also delivered risk workshops for Place and Economy to produce a new Directorate Risk Register. Internal Audit undertook a review of Risk Management during 2019/20 and gave good assurance on the adequacy of the risk management system, as the Council has clear risk management policies and procedures and risk is managed appropriately across the majority of the Council. The audit also gave good assurance on compliance with those policies and procedures, particularly at a corporate risk level.
- 4.11 Summary of Completed Audits
- 4.11.1 A summary of all audit reports issued in 2018/19 is attached at Appendix 1.

#### 5. INTERNAL AUDIT PERFORMANCE AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

- 5.1 Delivery of the 2018/19 Internal Audit Plan
- 5.1.1 The Cambridgeshire County Council Internal Audit Plan was agreed in March 2018, with the required resources approved at 1550 days based on each audit identified.
- 5.1.2 In accordance with best practice, the Internal Audit Plan was re-assessed and updated in line with changing risks throughout the year. Changes to the Plan were approved by Strategic Management Team (SMT) and the Audit and Accounts Committee (AAC) through regular progress reporting. The key performance measure for Internal Audit was approved as completion of the Audit Plan, which is reported to SMT and Audit Committee at least quarterly.





#### 5.2 Service Development

- 5.2.1 Continuing Professional Development has been a major focus of the quality assurance programme in 2018/19, to ensure that staff have the skills to carry out their responsibilities with proficiency and deliver work of the required quality. Team meetings are used to deliver training and workshops to staff, and a system of post-audit assessments against the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Excellent Internal Auditor standard is used to identify areas for development on an ongoing basis, in tandem with regular supervision of all staff.
- 5.2.2 A new Internal Audit Strategy and Charter were implemented from the start of the year, to ensure that the service remains effective and focused in providing a modern, independent and objective assurance function to Councillors and management.
- 5.3 Compliance with Public Sector Internal Audit Standards
- 5.3.1 The Internal Audit service has operated in compliance with Public Sector Internal Audit Standards throughout the year.
- 5.3.2 An external assessment of Internal Audit's compliance with Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) was completed in 2016/17with a follow up visit undertaken in May 2017, which confirmed service's compliance with the latest set of standards issued in April 2017. The service confirms it continues to adhere to these guidelines by reviewing annually. A self-assessment, in accordance with PSIAS best practice has been completed by the Cambridgeshire based team and a review of this by a colleague based at Milton Keynes is currently in progress.





APPENDIX 1

#### **CCC INTERNAL AUDIT**

Summary of Completed Audits 2018/19:

The table below summarises the Internal Audits that were completed during the 2018/19 financial year, excluding counter fraud investigations which are itemised separately in section 4.6.

| Audit Title  | Compliance assurance | Systems assurance  | Organisational impact |  |
|--|----------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| Agency Staff Compliance  | Satisfactory         | N/A  | Minor                 |  |
| EU Procurement Regulations   | Good                 | N/A  | Minor                 |  |
| Procurement Compliance   | Satisfactory         | N/A  | Minor                 |  |
| Unannounced Visits   | Satisfactory         | Satisfactory   | Minor                 |  |
| Impact of Price & Quality Evaluation   | Good                 | Good   | Moderate              |  |
| Development of Project Assurance Framework   | Framework develo     | ped and agreed in 2019/20.   | by JMT, for launch    |  |
| Project Assurance of High Risk<br>Projects   | Advice & suppo       | ort to the Cambr<br>Programme  | idgeshire 2020        |  |
| Development of Project<br>Management Framework   | recommendation       | Review of Framework completed and recommendations provided, linked to new Project Assurance Framework. |                       |  |
| Management of Consultants and Interims   | Limited              | Satisfactory   | Minor                 |  |
| Account Coding on the General Ledger   | Limited              | N/A  | Minor                 |  |
| Payment Methods  | Good                 | N/A  | Minor                 |  |
| Ely Bypass Review  | Satisfactory         | Limited  | Minor                 |  |
| Performance Management<br>(combining planned reviews of<br>Corporate Key Performance<br>Indicator Framework; Key<br>Performance Indicators<br>Compliance; and Directorate<br>Performance Management) | Good                 | Satisfactory   | Minor                 |  |
| Fees and Charges Policy and Compliance (also incorporating planned review of Discretionary and Non-Statutory Service Provision and Expenditure)  | Limited              | N/A  | Minor                 |  |
| Annual Key Policies and<br>Procedures Review   | N/A                  | Good   | Minor                 |  |





| Grants to Voluntary                        | Satisfactory  | Limited                    | Minor            |
|--|---|----------------------------|------------------|
| Organisations Compliance                   | , l   |                            |                  |
| Grants to Voluntary                        | Policy framework  | •                          | launched in July |
| Organisations Framework                    |   | 2018.                      |                  |
| Annual Whistleblowing Policy               | Annual Report to A  |                            | Committee in May |
| Report and Awareness                       |   | 2019.                      |                  |
| Contract Management of                     |   |                            |                  |
| Residential and Nursing Care               | In progress   |                            |                  |
| Providers                                  |   |                            |                  |
| Direct Payments Compliance                 | Satisfactory  | N/A                        | N/A              |
| Coram Cambridgeshire                       |   |                            |                  |
| Adoption Contract (P&C                     | Limited   | Limited                    | Minor            |
| Contract Management)                       |   |                            |                  |
| Troubled Families Grant 18-19              |   | fications provide          |                  |
| Personal Budgets                           | Good  | N/A                        | Minor            |
| Fostering Service                          | Satisfactory  | Satisfactory               | Moderate         |
| Transport Contract                         | Satisfactory  | Satisfactory               | Minor            |
| Management                                 | Satisfactory  | Satisfactory               |                  |
| Section 106 Funding                        | Good Good   |                            | Minor            |
| Highways Contract Open Book                | N/A   | Limited                    | Moderate         |
| Review 18-19                               | N/A   | Lillitea                   | Wioderate        |
| Highways - Commercial Group                | Commercial Group attendance to provide ongo   |                            |                  |
| Trigitways - commercial Group              | ad  | lvice and suppor           | t.               |
| Waste Management Steering                  | Steering Group attendance to provide ongoing advice   |                            |                  |
| Group                                      | and support.  |                            |                  |
| Street Lighting Private Finance            |   |                            |                  |
| Initiative (PFI) Open Book                 | Initial contract review work for full review in 2019/20.  |                            |                  |
| Review 18-19                               |   |                            |                  |
| Waste PFI                                  | Ongoing advice and support to Waste PFI management processes                                      |                            |                  |
| Local Transport Capital Block              | ·   |                            |                  |
| Funding                                    | Grant Certified   |                            |                  |
| Growth Deal                                | Grant Certified   |                            |                  |
| Bus Services Operators Grant               | Grant Certified   |                            |                  |
| Pothole Action Fund                        | Grant Certified   |                            |                  |
| Cycle City Phase II Grant                  | Grant Certified   |                            |                  |
| National Productivity Fund                 | Grant Certified   |                            |                  |
| Safer Roads Funding                        | Grant Certified   |                            |                  |
|  | Advice & Guidance   |                            | oing Procurement |
|  | Advice & Guidance provided to ongoing Procurement Transport Project following Community Transport |                            |                  |
| I Procurement Transport Project            |   |                            |                  |
| Procurement Transport Project              |   | Investigation              |                  |
|  |   | Investigation.             |                  |
| P&E Partnership Services Cost              |   | Investigation. In Progress |                  |
| P&E Partnership Services Cost<br>Recovery* |   | In Progress                |                  |
| P&E Partnership Services Cost              | Grant   |                            | vided            |





| Cambridgeshire Challenge Fund (Drought Damaged Roads)        | Grant certification provided  |              |       |
|--|---|--------------|-------|
| SWIM Project   | Grant certification provided  |              |       |
| Section 75 Agreement (Public Health Contract Management)     | Satisfactory  | Limited      | Minor |
| Broadband Grant  | Grant certification provided  |              |       |
| Public Health Grant  | Grant certification provided  |              |       |
| Accounts Receivable  | Satisfactory  | Satisfactory | Minor |
| Purchase to Pay  | Satisfactory  | Satisfactory | Minor |
| Payroll  | In progress   |              |       |
| General Ledger   | In progress   |              |       |
| Bank Reconciliation  | In progress   |              |       |
| Treasury Management  | In progress   |              |       |
| Debt Recovery  | Limited   | Limited      | Minor |
| Administration of<br>Cambridgeshire Pension Fund             | Substantial   | Substantial  | Minor |
| Financial Systems IT General<br>Controls                     | Satisfactory  | Satisfactory | Minor |
| ERP Assurance - Accounts<br>Receivable                       | Mid-year review of ERP System completed and advisory interim report produced. |              |       |
| ERP Assurance - Accounts Payable                             | Mid-year review of ERP System completed and advisory interim report produced. |              |       |
| ERP Assurance – Debt Recovery                                | Mid-year review of ERP System completed and advisory interim report produced. |              |       |
| ERP Assurance – Bank<br>Reconciliation                       | Mid-year review of ERP System completed and advisory interim report produced. |              |       |
| Risk Management Audit  | Good  | Good         | Minor |
| Risk Management  | Ongoing Risk Management Support   |              |       |
| Annual Governance Statement-<br>Code of Corporate Governance | Annual Governance Statement/Code of Corporate Governance.                     |              |       |
| Information Security   | In progress   |              |       |
| Response to Information<br>Security Incidents                | Good  | Satisfactory | Minor |
| Controls Review of Critical<br>Systems                       | In progress   |              |       |
| ICT Disaster Recovery  | In progress   |              |       |