

# LGSS Internal Audit & Risk Management

Cambridgeshire County Council

*Update report*

*As at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021*

## *Section 1*

### *1 Introduction*

- 1.1 A summary of the content of the key sections of this report is provided below, for reference:

SECTION 1: Introduction

SECTION 2: Internal Audit Resources

SECTION 3: Finalised Assignments

SECTION 4: Summaries of Completed Audits with Limited or No Assurance

SECTION 5: Key Financial Systems Audits

SECTION 6: Audit Forward Planning: Next Four Quarters

SECTION 7: Follow Up of Agreed Audit Actions

SECTION 8: Risk Management

SECTION 9: Fraud and Corruption Update

APPENDIX A: Internal Audit Plan Progress 2021/22

APPENDIX B: Outstanding Agreed Actions

## 2. Internal Audit Resources

- 2.1 The 2021-22 Internal Audit Plan was presented to JMT on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021 before being approved at Audit and Accounts Committee on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021. This agreed a new approach, whereby the annual Audit Plan is split out into two elements: the 'core' plan, comprising key areas of assurance that are reviewed every year and audit support work (e.g. to working parties or panels) which is ongoing throughout the year; and the 'flexible' plan, i.e. the areas of audit coverage that vary from year to year, with planned coverage based on a risk assessment process.
- 2.2 For 2021/22, it was agreed that the 'core' plan will be set annually, and the 'flexible' plan will be set quarterly in advance, to ensure that it is more reactive to areas of emerging or changing risk.
- 2.3 The proposed 'flexible' Audit Plan for Q2 2021/22 is set out below, at Section 6 of this report. Work planned and underway for Q1 is included in Appendix A to this report.
- 2.4 The work of the team is still being impacted by the rapidly changing environment as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, and it is envisaged this will continue forward for the foreseeable future. As a result, there have been some amendments required to the 'core' Audit Plan for the year, as follows:
- Sustainability Panel – Internal Audit is attending the Sustainability Panel meetings to provide support to the process of reviewing grant applications from childcare providers.
  - Additional Dedicated Home to School Transport Grant – Central government has awarded this additional grant which requires Internal Audit review.
  - Major Infrastructure Delivery (MID) Project Assurance Group – Following a review last summer of four significant MID projects and the associated governance framework, Internal Audit is providing ongoing support to the implementation of the new MID, and wider Place and Economy, governance framework and supporting procedures.
  - Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) Review – An allowance of time to enable completion of a review of the Internal Audit team against PSIAS and best practice, taking into account the changing ways of working that have recently been agreed.
- 2.5 It is expected that new risks will emerge throughout 'normal' yearly cycles. This is the reason why the Plan is submitted to JMT and the Audit & Accounts Committee

approximately each quarter for challenge and direction, ensuring that resources are targeted towards those areas of highest organisational need. The Internal Audit team has regular meetings with colleagues in the organisation and endeavours to be responsive should requests for unplanned work be made.

2.6 The caveat to this flexibility is that the Head of Audit must be satisfied that the work completed in the year is sufficient and appropriate to support the annual audit opinion.

2.7 The annual audit opinion for the financial year 2020/21 is due to be presented to the 22nd July Audit & Accounts Committee, pulling together summary details of the work completed by Internal Audit in 2020/21.

2.8 Previously, the Audit Committee has requested that each progress report includes an update on the Internal Audit review of the Highways Contract. This detailed review has recently completed its' second stage, whereby the audit team has essentially received from the contractor their final cost statement for the year. This now means that the Internal Audit team can commence the final and most complex stage of the review, the verification of these figures, or as more commonly known, the open book review stage.

2.9 The final tranche of information was provided to the Council on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 and related to the Contractors full identified costs for Plant, Materials and 'other' costs not picked up anywhere else within the process. This exercise has resulted in the identification of an additional c.£66k in over-recovered payments to be repaid to the Council. When this figure is included, this work will have resulted in the repayment of over-recovered costs totalling £854,440.71 to June 2021. The review has taken longer than anticipated, however, as detailed, the exercise has already resulted in significant repayment of over-recovered amounts and is contributing to improved governance arrangements going forward.

### 3 Finalised Assignments

3.1 Since our last Progress Report in March 2021, the following audit assignments have reached completion, as set out below in Table 1.

Table 1: Finalised Assignments

No.	Directorate	Assignment	Compliance Assurance	Systems Assurance	Organisational impact
1.	Cross Cutting (CCC)	Key Performance Indicator Framework	N/a	Satisfactory	Minor
2.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Accounts Payable	Good	Good	Minor
3.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Debt Recovery	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Moderate
4.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Feeder Systems	Good	Satisfactory	Minor
5.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Accounts Receivable	Good	Good	Minor
6.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Pensions	Good	Substantial	Minor
7.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Treasury Management	Good	Good	Minor
8.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Financial Systems IT Controls	Good	Good	Minor
9.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Community Capital Fund	Good	Satisfactory	Minor
10.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	HR Transactions	Good	Satisfactory	Minor
11.	Customer & Digital Services	Light-Touch ICT Security Review	N/A	Satisfactory	Moderate
12.	People & Communities	Schools Payroll	Limited	Satisfactory	Minor

13.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Bank Reconciliations	Good	Good	Minor
14.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	General Ledger	Good	Good	Minor
15.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Bus Service Operators Grant	N/A – Grant sign off work		
16.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Emergency Active Travel Fund	N/A – Grant sign off work		
17.	Place and Economy	Pothole Challenge Fund	N/A – Grant sign off work		
18.	Place and Economy	Local transport Capital Block Fund	N/A – Grant sign off work		

3.1 Summaries of any finalised reports with limited or no assurance are provided in Section 4.

3.1 The following audit assignments have reached draft report stage, as set out below in table 2:

Table 2: Draft Reports

No.	Directorate	Assignment
1.	People & Communities	Schools Safer Recruitment
2.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Interim report on FOI Review
3.	Cross-Cutting (CCC-wide)	Interim report on Preschool Investigation
4.	People and Communities	Foster Carer Overpayment Review
5.	People & Communities	Direct Payments Investigation

3.1 Further information on work planned and in progress may be found in the Audit Plan, attached as Appendix A.

## 4 Summaries of completed audits with Limited or No Assurance

### Schools Payroll

- 4.1 Internal Audit conducted a review to examine the robustness of the local authority's maintained school payroll monitoring and assurance systems. The objective was to provide assurance that the risk of financial loss, fraud and error is minimised by the centralised systems of control operated by the Schools Finance Team and the systems of the three external payroll providers who provide services to Cambridgeshire's maintained schools.
- 4.2 The Audit identified a "Satisfactory" level of assurance over the system design, with the *Schools Financial Regulations* providing clear high-level guidance to individual schools in relation to required controls over payroll. However, the assurance given to the compliance with these key controls over schools payroll expenditure was "Limited".
- 4.3 There is oversight from the Schools Finance Team, to ensure that expenditure undertaken by maintained schools is correctly coded to the General Ledger and investigate any large variances in yearly expenditure from individual schools, but the team does not review schools expenditure in detail.
- 4.4 The three external schools payroll providers were contacted by Internal Audit on multiple occasions and requested to provide third party assurance statements over their payroll systems; however, none of the providers provided any evidence or information regarding the control environment of their systems.<sup>1</sup> The Schools Finance Team do not request or review any third-party assurances from schools payroll providers on the integrity of their payroll systems.
- 4.5 As a result, the Council currently has little assurance over schools' compliance with the requirements of the *Schools Financial Regulations* with respect to payroll, creating a risk of inappropriate, fraudulent or erroneous expenditure at schools going undetected. It has therefore been agreed that Internal Audit will undertake a programme of reviews of individuals schools' financial controls, particularly looking at payroll controls, and targeted towards schools which have been identified as higher-risk via the Schools Causing Concern process. The reviews will take place from September onwards and will aim to provide further assurance over schools' compliance with key payroll controls.

<sup>1</sup> N.B. This contrasts with a previous audit review in 2018, when all three providers supplied some information regarding their system controls

## 5 Key Financial Systems Audit

- 5.1 In Q1/Q2, Internal Audit provide an update to the Audit Committee on Key Financial Systems Reviews, as these core annual audits underpin the annual Internal Audit opinion. Details on progress to date with these reviews is provided below:

Table 3: Key Financial Systems

No.	Assignment	Progress	Compliance Assurance	Systems Assurance	Organisational impact
1.	Accounts Payable	Final Report	Good	Good	Minor
2.	Debt Recovery	Final Report	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Moderate
3.	Treasury Management	Final Report	Good	Good	Minor
4.	Accounts Receivable	Final Report	Good	Good	Minor
5.	VAT	Final Report	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Minor
6.	Payroll	Fieldwork ongoing	TBC	TBC	TBC
7.	Bank Reconciliations	Final Report	Good	Good	Minor
8.	General Ledger	Final Report	Good	Good	Minor
9.	Pensions	Final Report	Good	Substantial	Minor
10.	Financial Systems IT Controls	Final Report	Good	Good	Minor
11.	HR Transactions	Final Report	Good	Satisfactory	Minor



5.2 The Payroll report has yet to be completed at the time of writing. This review is being delivered by audit colleagues at MKC, who have provided assurances that the reports will be at draft report stage by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2021. At the time of writing this report, no significant issues or risks have been identified in the Payroll audit where fieldwork is progressing.

## 6. Audit Forward Planning: Next four Quarters

- 6.1 Core audit work is progressing in line with the agreed Audit Plan 2021/22. Progress on this work is detailed at Appendix A to this report.
- 6.2 The proposed 'flexible' Internal Audit Plan for Q2 – Q5 is set out below, showing the current risk profiling of Internal Audit reviews over the next year. These are new jobs proposed to commence in the period, i.e. ongoing work is not included.
- 6.3 This programme of work is subject to change to ensure that the Audit Plan can be reactive as well as proactive about providing assurance over emerging risk areas but also because work from Q1 is likely to require more resource to complete, e.g. the highways open book review. The team's available resources have also been significantly impacted by a number of leavers and secondments in the last quarter. It is anticipated that these posts will be filled during Quarter 3.

<i>Audit</i>	<i>Dir.</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Why</i>
Current Proposed Flexible Internal Audit Plan for Q2:			250	
Contract Management - Supported Living	P&C	Value For Money	20	Review of the Supported Living contract. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
'Less Than Best' Awards of Property	CCC	Financial Governance	20	Review of properties awarded at 'Less Than Best' cost, the governance in place to control this process and compliance with governance arrangements.
Adult's Social Care Commissioning Strategies	P&C	Procurement & Commissioning	30	Review of strategic planning for commissioning and contracting across Adults Social Care, to provide assurance that commissioning is pro-active, considers demand and how this may be managed, and takes into account the condition of local markets. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Waste PFI	P&E	Procurement & Commissioning	30	Council's biggest PFI contract, £35m p.a. gross budget. Renegotiation of the contract to resolve legacy issues re: retention of monies. The scale of the contracts means this is a key financial risk for the Council. This

				audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Investment Properties	Resources	Value For Money	20	The Council is increasingly investing in property at a high cost. Review of investments, process, strategy and risk especially in light of new guidance on use of loans from PWLB. High reputational risk. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Insurance Fund	Resources	Value For Money	20	Previously managed via LGSS. Review of insurance policies, service management and compliance.
Budgetary Control	CCC	Financial Governance	20	Review of the policies and procedures that underpin the Council's system of budgetary control, as well as compliance with key controls by budget holders.
Climate Change & Environment Strategy	CCC	Governance	20	Review of the Council's Climate Change and Environment Strategy, how the aims of this strategy are reflected in broader corporate policies and governance processes, and progress with action plans within the strategy.
Adult Social Care Finance	P&C	Financial Governance	20	Assurance following the major restructure and centralisation of the Adults Social Care Finance team, particularly reviewing invoicing processes, cost recovery and the link to debt management. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Recruitment Processes in Children's Social Care	P&C	Business Continuity	20	Review requested by the Service Director for Children & Safeguarding. This would aim to provide assurance that the process in place is streamlined and sufficiently robust to ensure that only good-quality candidates are appointed, as well as considering safe recruitment issues. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Contract Management - Cambridgeshire Energy	P&E	Procurement & Commissioning	30	Review of contract management within the Cambridgeshire Energy Performance Contracting project, which holds two major contracts with

Performance Contracting Project				a combined annual value of £11m. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Current Proposed Flexible Internal Audit Plan for Q3:			195	
Street lighting PFI	P&E	Procurement & Commissioning	30	2nd highest gross budget, previous audits have identified weak contract management. Risk of failure to achieve best value. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
ICT Disaster Recovery	C&D	ICT and Information Governance	15	Review of policies and procedures relating to disaster recovery surety in ICT, including compliance with testing and policies.
Use of Block Contracts	P&C	Procurement & Commissioning	30	Significant use of block contracts in Adults & Older Peoples services. Review of the usage of block contract spaces, how need is forecast and monitored, and value for money.
Rental Income	Resources	Value For Money	20	Ensuring that the Council maximises the value of its property. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Business Planning	CCC	Financial Governance	30	Review of governance, compliance, management and monitoring, and benefits realisation.
Loans to External Organisations	Resources	Financial Governance	20	Review of the Council's policies on providing loans to external organisations and compliance with policy in practice. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Individual Schools Finance Audits	P&C	Financial Governance	50	Focus on schools payroll, finance and financial governance arrangements with audit visits to a selection of higher-risk schools identified through the Schools Causing Concern process.
Current Proposed Flexible Internal Audit Plan for Q4:			240	
Safeguarding Assurances	P&C	Safeguarding	30	Review of assurances over the Council's safeguarding arrangements for children and adults, including internal review processes, contractual assurances, and assurances received from third

				parties such as Ofsted, peer reviews etc. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Client-side Review of LGSS Law	L&C	Procurement & Commissioning	20	Client-side review of Cambridgeshire's LGSS Law legal provision.
New Schools Building	P&C	Procurement & Commissioning	20	Education Property has a Design & Build contract with an annual value of £100m. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Children's Social Care Commissioning Strategies	P&C	Procurement & Commissioning	30	Review of strategic planning for commissioning and contracting across Children's Social Care, to provide assurance that commissioning is pro-active, considers demand and how this may be managed, and takes into account the condition of local markets.
Contract Management	CCC	Procurement & Commissioning	20	Noted as a risk area given the outcomes from recent audits. Lack of detailed contract management guidance available to managers in the organisation. High impact area.
Cambridgeshire County Council Client Monitoring Arrangements for This Land Ltd	Resources	Value For Money	30	A review to provide comprehensive follow-up on findings and implementation of actions following the review of This Land Ltd in 2019/20. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Supplier Resilience Reviews	CCC	Business Continuity	20	Review of a sample of key strategic suppliers, with a focus on suppliers of care and transport to vulnerable service users, to identify assurances in place over supplier resilience and continuity planning.
ICT Security	C&D	ICT and Information Governance	20	Review of ICT security strategy and compliance with key measures such as PSN etc.
Contract Management - Minor Works Framework	Resources	Procurement & Commissioning	30	Annual value of £8m. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.

ICT Strategy	C&D	ICT and Information Governance	20	Following ICT moving in-house from LGSS, a review of current strategy and governance within the ICT service
Current Proposed Flexible Internal Audit Plan for Q5:			230	
Capital Strategy	Resources	Value For Money	20	Review of the Council's Capital Strategy, in light of the CIPFA Prudential Code requiring Local Authorities to have a Capital Strategy in place from April 2019. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Contract Management - Public Transport, Park & Ride, and Guided Busway Contract	P&E	Procurement & Commissioning	30	Annual value of £3m. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Information Security	C&D	ICT and Information Governance	20	Review of arrangements for controlling information security risk, with a focus on: policies and procedures; compliance with legislative requirements; communication and staff awareness; compliance monitoring; and incident handling.
Social Care Transitions	P&C	Value For Money	20	Review of service user transitions between child and adult services including LD, PD and LAC, with a focus on providing assurance that processes are streamlined and efficient. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Health, Safety & Wellbeing Policy Compliance	CCC	Safeguarding	15	Review of compliance with key controls within the Council's Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy. This audit was previously deferred from the 2020/21 Audit Plan.
Financial Regulations Monitoring & Compliance, including Delegated Authorities	CCC	Financial Governance	20	Review to ensure that budget variations are approved in line with the requirements of the Financial Procedure Rules and the Constitution.

Demand management strategies	CCC	Value For Money	20	Community resilience; review how the Council is working to reduce demand for high-cost services and whether plans to manage demand in one area end up increasing demand in another area.
ICT Change Management	C&D	ICT and Information Governance	20	Review of policies, procedures and compliance with managing change in ICT systems and processes.
ICT Incident and Problem Management	C&D	ICT and Information Governance	20	Review of policies, procedures and compliance with managing identified incidents, issues and problems with ICT systems and services.
ICT Procurement	C&D	Procurement & Commissioning	20	Review of ICT procurement function including commissioning, contract management, efficiencies etc.
ICT Asset Inventory	C&D	ICT and Information Governance	15	Review of how physical ICT assets are inventoried and managed throughout the Council, especially with the move to increased remote working.
Procurement Team Oversight of Major Procurements Compliance	Resources	Procurement & Commissioning	10	Recommendation from a previous audit that a monthly report of all purchase orders above £100k raised in the last month is extracted from ERP and that this is compared to the known contracts that have been created in the last month to check for contracts above £100k that were not overseen by the Procurement Team. Procurement have indicated that this would be too expensive for them to implement so Internal Audit will conduct compliance testing on this key control.

## 7. Follow up of agreed audit actions

- 7.1 The outstanding management actions from Internal Audit reports as at 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021 are summarised in the table below. This includes a comparison with the percentage implementation from the previous report (bracketed figures).
- 7.2 In line with the new rolling audit plan, from this reporting period onward implemented recommendations will now only include those closed within the last five quarters. Any recommendations that were closed more than five quarters ago are not included in the figures below.

Table 4: Implementation of Recommendations

	Category 'Essential' recommendations		Category 'Important' recommendations		Total	
	Number	% of total	Number	% of total	Number	% of total
Implemented	3 (1)	2.97% (1.32%)	44 (59)	43.56% (77.63%)	47 (60)	46.53% (78.95%)
Actions due within last 3 months, but not implemented	1 (0)	0.99% (0%)	43 (4)	42.57% (5.26%)	44 (4)	43.56% (5.26%)
Actions due over 3 months ago, but not implemented	1 (2)	0.99% (2.63%)	9 (10)	8.91% (13.16%)	10 (12)	9.90% (15.79%)
Totals	5		96		101	

- 7.3 There are currently 54 management actions outstanding. Further detail on outstanding actions is provided at Appendix B.
- 7.4 There are two outstanding 'Essential' recommendations. The first relates to the Complaints Audit, which found that the Council did not have a corporate complaints policy or detailed guidance, but instead had inconsistent local processes in place. The policy and guidance are now in place. However, to assist with the implementation of this policy the service planned to implement a digital complaints management solution. Progress with this system was impacted by pressure on the LGSS Digital team through the height of the pandemic, when work had to be re-prioritised to support our COVID response. This team was then impacted by the re-patriation of staff from LGSS to the various LGSS partner authorities in October 2020 and by the backlog of digital work, particularly the creation of on-line forms, which again had to be carefully prioritised. Progress is



now being made, the system has been developed and testing is currently taking place. On the assumption that the testing progresses well we expect that the recommendation will be fully implemented by 30th September 2021.

- 7.5 The other outstanding essential recommendation relates to a review of aged debt and only became overdue on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021. The Head of Finance Operations is implementing debt improvement groups to establish debt recovery principles with services and once these are established will undertake the review exercise. In the interim and as BAU service review meetings have been put in place. This includes the sharing debt data with services, including aged debts, to enable targeted communication and actions. The recommendation is expected to be fully implemented by 30th September 2021.

## 8. Risk Management

- 8.1 In March 2021, a new suite of Corporate Risks was agreed by JMT, and subsequently agreed by the Audit and Accounts Committee. These risks are as follows:
- Risk 01 – The Council’s arrangements for safeguarding vulnerable children and adults fails
  - Risk 02 – The Council does not have enough budget to deliver agreed corporate objectives
  - Risk 03 – In the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, a serious incident occurs, preventing services from operating and/ or requiring a major incident response.
  - Risk 04 - The Council does not deliver on its’ statutory or legislative obligations
  - Risk 05 – Our human resources are not able to meet business need
  - Risk 06 – Insufficient community infrastructure to deliver the Council’s services
  - Risk 07 – Failure to deliver key Council services
- 8.2 A meeting was subsequently held to discuss how business systems should be captured at a corporate level, and work is now ongoing to review and refresh the IT Service and CCS Directorate Risk registers, before feeding the most high risk elements of this area into the Corporate Risk Register (CRR).
- 8.3 Risk 07 ‘Failure to deliver key Council services’ has been agreed, and key triggers suggested, through there are currently no controls detailed.
- 8.4 The GRACE Risk Management System was updated to reflect the CRR, and discussions are ongoing to discuss how to align directorate risks to the CRR in an efficient manner.
- 8.5 The Internal Audit team is in the process of migrating the full suite of risk registers and the risk management process to sit within POWA (Project Online). This moves away from the LGSS GRACE Management System and should allow a greater

ease of access and understanding for risk owners and officers using risk registers and will facilitate a greater consistency across risk registers. This new system will align to the Council's project management systems and therefore should also allow for the escalation of project risks in a more streamlined way.

- 8.6 Now the new suite of risks has been agreed, work has begun on the next stage of the Risk Management process. That is to take the information detailed in the CRR and to give an assurance to risk owners and key stakeholders that the control environment detailed is proportionate and effective in theory to mitigate the risk. Once this work has been completed, a report will be presented to the relevant risk owners and wider JMT on the opinion given on the risk register and will include any key considerations for inclusion going forward.
- 8.7 The final stage in this process will be to undertake compliance testing of key controls detailed within the register to ensure that the controls are operating as intended in practice. This assurance process will then be undertaken for the top 3 risks in each directorate on a sampled quarterly basis.

## 9 Fraud and corruption update

### 9.1 Fraud investigations

The current Internal Audit caseload of investigations is summarised below in Table 5. At the time of writing, Internal Audit has received one notification of a suspected theft in 2021/22; the remaining open cases relate to notifications or whistleblowing cases that were received in the previous financial year.

Table 5. Current Internal Audit Investigations Caseload

Open Cases from 2020/21 <i>Carried forward</i>		Open	Closed	Total
Fraud	Direct Payments	2	0	2
	Blue Badges	2	0	2
	Third Party Fraud	1	0	1
Governance	Anti-competitive activity allegation	1	0	1
Theft	Schools Theft	0	1	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>All Cases Reported in 2021/22 <i>To Date</i></b>				
Theft	Libraries Theft	1	0	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

## 9.2 National Fraud Initiative

The 2020/21 National Fraud Initiative started in September 2020 for extraction of data sets across a variety of service areas matched nationally with other agencies such as Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) to prevent and detect fraud and error. The matches were available to review from January 2021.

The total amount of matches for CCC is 8625. As at June 2021, 412 matches have been reviewed and cleared resulting in £63,440.03 identified to recover. This sum relates to pension payments made to a deceased person and the Pension Team Leader (West Northamptonshire) is progressing these cases.

Out of the 8625 matches 396 are being reviewed by the Internal Audit team.