



**NEWCASTLE·UNDER·LYME**  
**BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Summary of Outstanding Audit Recommendations and Levels of Assurance – Quarter 3 (2014-15)**

	Chief Executives			Resources & Support Services			Regeneration & Development Services			Operational Services		
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total number of Recommendations	11	11	13	125	116	85	45	45	43	91	96	96
Number of Recommendations Outstanding as at the end of the month	3	0	2	27	19	25	6	6	7	4	8	19
% Implemented as at the end of the month	67	100	82	75	80	64	81	82	79	94	89	77
% Overdue for implementation as at the end of the month	33	0	18	25	20	36	19	20	21	6	11	23
No of recommendations with target date changed > 2	0	0	0	5	3	6	0	0	0	2	0	4
High Risk recommendations with target date changed > 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Medium Risk recommendations with target date changed > 2	0	0	0	4	2	4	0	0	0	1	0	2

	Chief Executives			Resources & Support Services			Regeneration & Development Services			Operational Services		
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec
Low Risk recommendations with target date changed > 2	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	1
<b>Overall Assurance Level</b>	<b>Ltd</b>	<b>Full</b>	<b>Sub</b>	<b>Sub</b>	<b>Sub</b>	<b>Ltd</b>	<b>Sub</b>	<b>Sub</b>	<b>Sub</b>	<b>Sub</b>	<b>Sub</b>	<b>Ltd</b>
<b>Annual Audit Days for Directorate*</b>	<b>62</b>			<b>206</b>			<b>65</b>			<b>102</b>		
<b>Total number of audit reviews for the Directorate*</b>	<b>7</b>			<b>18</b>			<b>8</b>			<b>9</b>		

**Opinions are classified as;**

Full	The Internal Audit did not reveal any control weaknesses based on the samples at the time of the audit	94% - 100%
Substantial	The Internal Audit identified areas that required necessary action to avoid exposure to significant risk	70% - 93% or target changed > 2 on medium risk recommendations
Limited	The Internal Audit identified areas where it was imperative to act to avoid exposure to risk	50% - 69% or target changed > 2 on high risk recommendations
Little	The Internal Audit identified very little evidence of key controls being in place or a repetition of evidence that known action has not taken place to avoid exposure to high risk i.e.: as identified in previous audits. This exposes the Council to high risks that should have been managed.	Below 50%

Full assurance can be given where the Council achieves 94% of all recommendations implemented as the agreed performance measure for 2012-13.

Where target dates for the implementation of recommendations are changed or renegotiated we cannot give our full assurance. If the ongoing risk was considered as;

**High Risk:***(action that is considered imperative to ensure that the authority is not exposed to high risks; (Implemented within 1 month))*

**Medium Risk:** *(action that is considered necessary to avoid exposure to significant risks: (Implemented within 3 months))*By changing the date the risk is not being managed and therefore you may wish to seek additional assurance as to the security of the controls in place.