Report from Chair of Audit and Risk Committee meeting 16th November 2015

At the meeting, the following reports were presented:

- Health and Safety 6 monthly report- It was noted that there was a reduction in RIDDOR accidents but an increase in, 'near miss' incidents. This was viewed as a positive as it is alerting officers to potential problem areas before they become RIDDOR incidents. A Lone Working review is underway with business managers to ascertain if any further control measures are needed to protect staff
- Corporate Risk Management Report – An additional risk was reported re the TUPE transfer of waste operatives. This has now been resolved so the risk will not be reported in the next quarter.
- Treasury Management half yearly report- This is a statutory financial report. It showed that despite interest rates being low, officers are achieving a reasonable return on investments. Being debt free, there was nothing to report re interest being paid. 98% of the investment in the Heritable bank has been recovered to date
- The Annual Audit Letter from Grant Thornton- A representative from Grant Thornton delivered this report. This is a statutory requirement and no different to the findings of the Audit Report. The rules state that both the Audit report and the Audit letter have to be reported to the Audit and Risk Committee
- Internal Audit Progress report Quarter 2– All areas were adequately controlled. Planning will be added to the audit plan for 2016-17 so that further sampling can be done. Since May the audit section have been working with other Council's on detecting Corporate Fraud, Corporate Fraud is defined as any fraud other than housing benefit. The section now has a dedicated Corporate Fraud officer and since May, 31 cases have been investigated
- Internal Audit Quarterly report- Members were updated on the areas of risk outstanding following Internal Audit reviews. There were no significant recommendations outstanding

Cllr Sarah Pickup

Chair of Audit and Risk Committee