

Audit and Standards Committee

The Committee met on 17th July 2023.

Members reviewed the Q4 Corporate Risk Management report 2022/23 and were advised that there were no risks more than 6 months overdue requiring further information, but there had been one risk level increased from medium C to medium D. However, it is likely that this will go back to its original classification following receipt of further information. One new risk has also been added in relation to the Shared Prosperity Fund.

Clare Potts, Chief Internal Auditor, introduced the Internal Audit Annual Report 2022/23, which detailed work carried out during the year. It was noted that the program follows a continuous cycle and consequently there are areas of work that remain incomplete at the year-end. 51% of the recommendations made had been implemented by the year-end.

Sarah Wilkes, S151 Officer summarised the Treasury Management Annual Report 2022/23, noting that the council had not needed to undertake any borrowing during the year. Due to the Town Deal and other funding streams, instead it was holding substantial cash reserves and had received substantial interest payments during the year.

Members were asked to consider the Health and Safety Report 2022/23. There were some concerns about the level of accidents occurring during the year, but members were reminded of the reduced levels of activities during recent years, due to covid, and the emphasis on reporting accidents during training sessions, which is likely to have lead to increased reports.

The Chair asked members to note the revised date of the next meeting, which has been put back approximately two weeks to fit in with reporting from the Auditors.

Paul Waring

Chair of Audit and Standards Committee.