



AUDIT COMMITTEE

Date Written	02 nd March 2020
Report Author	G Evans
Exempt/Non Exempt	Non Exempt
Committee Date	09 th March 2020

To: Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen

Strategic Procurement

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

1.1 The Strategic Procurement system was reviewed by Internal Audit during the 2019/2020 financial year. The resulting report was published on the 20th September 2019 concluding that the control environment was satisfactory and making 9 recommendations to management.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that

2.1 Audit Committee receive the Strategic Procurement report.

3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

3.1 As part of the internal audit plan for 2019/2020 a review of the Strategic Procurement system was undertaken. The review was carried forward from the 2018/2019 internal audit plan.

3.2 The objective of the audit was to evaluate the system of internal controls with a view to delivering reasonable assurance to the Authority over the adequacy of the internal control environment. The following objectives were examined and evaluated:

- Procurement levels have been defined and approved by the Council.
- Appropriate staff are aware of the Procurement and Contracting Rules.
- The Procurement and Contracting Rules are being complied with.

3.3 The audit review entailed documenting and evaluating the existing controls in operation against expected controls and the inherent risks of those controls being

absent. Audit testing was also undertaken to form an independent evaluation on the practical application and operation of those controls.

4.0 FINDINGS

- 4.1 The final report was issued on the 20th September 2019. The overall conclusion of the audit was that the system of internal control applied has been graded satisfactory. This means that whilst there is basically a sound system of control there are weaknesses which put some of the system's objectives at risk. This conclusion was determined as a result of evaluating both the control framework and the application of the controls.
- 4.2 The report contained 9 recommendations to improve existing arrangements. Management agreed to 8 of the recommendations.
- 4.3 The report and resulting recommendations are included as Appendix 1. This includes a detailed evaluation of each control reviewed during the audit, a summary of each objective and corresponding audit conclusion and the recommendations made including management's response.
- 4.4 Officers from the relevant Service area have attended Audit Committee to present on their progress to date in implementing the recommendations from the report.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 5.1 There are none specifically identified within this report.

MARK THOMAS
HEAD OF REGIONAL INTERNAL AUDIT
SERVICE

COUNCILLOR ANDREW BARRY
CABINET MEMBER FOR GOVERNANCE
AND CORPORATE SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
Strategic Procurement	2019/2020	Internal Audit office
Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?		No