



AGENDA ITEM: 8

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:

28 June 2016

Report of: Borough Treasurer

**Contact for further information: Mr M.Coysh (Extn. 2603)
(E-mail: mike.coysh@westlancs.gov.uk)**

SUBJECT: INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY – QUARTERLY UPDATE

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To advise of progress against the 2016/17 Internal Audit Plan.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That Members note progress in the year to date.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 This committee approved the 2016/17 Internal Audit Plan and the Internal Audit Manager will bring written updates on progress against it to each meeting of this Committee.

3.2 This report summarises progress to early June. This work will inform the overall opinion in the Internal Audit Annual Report that will be presented to this Committee following the end of the financial year.

4.0 INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY TO DATE

4.1 An appendix summarising progress to date and any significant issues arising is attached and the Internal Audit Manager will attend the meeting to present the report should Members have any questions.

4.2 Progress against the plan to date is behind the previous year's with 15% of audits in progress compared to 18% for the same period in 2015/16.

- 4.3 The main reason for this variance is a reduction in resources caused by a vacancy. The Audit Manager is addressing this shortfall through the appropriate channels and will provide a verbal update on the latest position at the meeting.
- 4.4 It is anticipated that by the end of the financial year 2016/17 the shortfall will have been adequately addressed and audit coverage will be sufficient to enable an adequate assessment of the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's overall framework of governance and control for 2016/17.

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS/COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 5.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder. The report has no significant links with the Sustainable Community Strategy.

6.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no significant financial or resource implications arising from this report as this activity is included in existing budget provisions.

7.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 This report summarises progress against Internal Audit's work programme to date. Internal Audit's work is a key source of assurance to this Committee that risks to the achievement of the Council's objectives are being properly managed. The activity referred to in this report is covered by the scheme of delegation to officers and the relevant risk registers will be amended to reflect the risks arising from the unexpected temporary reduction in resources.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

1. Internal Audit Activity Quarterly Update.