

Addendum by the Coalition

Governance, Risk & Best Value Committee

10 August 2021

Item 8.1 – Internal Audit Annual Opinion for the year ended 31 March 2021

- 1.1 Notes with concern that while some progress has been made, and despite previous assurances given by officers to ensure both adequate capacity and resource following the 20/21 opinion, the overall finding remains red.
- 1.2 Notes that the Chief Executive and Executive Directors were tasked to draft a comprehensive plan to be brought back to P&S on how to enable the significant improvements identified in the 20/21 report.
- 1.3 Notes the context of the 18 months dealing with COVID and the impact of this, both in terms of carrying out a full number of audits and resolving issues.
- 1.4 Recognises the hard work that is underway in teams across the council to improve on internal audit.
- 1.5 Agrees, however, that the issues highlighted in the report must be addressed prior to the end of this administration, and that senior management must do everything within their power to deliver an improved outcome on next year's opinion, including tackling any cultural barriers to proactive engagement with internal audit and effectively addressing findings, as well as provide regular progress reports to the relevant parent committees by no later than the first committee of the new calendar year, within the reports section of the agenda rather than routine decisions.

Moved by: Councillor Eleanor Bird

Seconded by: