

Report to:	AUDIT COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Tracy Greenhalgh- Chief Internal Auditor
Date of Meeting	26 May 2016

ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT OPINION AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To provide to the Committee with details of the Chief Internal Auditor’s Annual Opinion on the Council’s control environment and details of the Quality Improvement Programme, which the audit team is working towards in line with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To consider the findings from the Annual Internal Audit Opinion and Quality Improvement Programme.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 The report covers areas relevant to the work of the Committee in terms of internal audit.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council’s approved budget? Yes

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:
None

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are

- “The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”
- “Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

5.0 Background Information:

5.1 In line with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards, the Chief Internal Auditor is required to provide an annual opinion on the overall control environment at the Council, which is based on the findings of internal audit work conducted during the year. The Chief Internal Auditor is also required to present the Quality Improvement Programme to the Audit Committee to demonstrate continual improvement in the service and a range of tools are used to prepare it. The tools include a self-evaluation against the standards, Strategic Audit Plan actions, customer feedback and service improvement days.

5.2 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.3 List of Appendices:

Appendix 6(a) Annual Internal Audit Opinion and Quality Improvement Programme.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 All work undertaken by Risk Services is in line with relevant legislation.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 All work has been delivered within the agreed budget for Risk Services.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 The primary role of Risk Services is to provide assurance that the Council is effectively managing its risks and provide support to all services in relation to risk and control whilst ensuring that it adheres to professional standards.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 The Annual Internal Audit Opinion and Quality Improvement Programme were presented to the Corporate Leadership Team on the 26 April 2016.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None