

Report to:	AUDIT COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Tracy Greenhalgh, Head of Audit and Risk
Date of Meeting:	30 September 2021

RISK SERVICES QUARTER ONE REPORT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To provide the Audit Committee with a summary of the work completed by Risk Services in quarter one of the 2021/2022 financial year.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 The Audit Committee is asked to note to content of the report.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure that the Council has effective risk management processes in place.

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

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 None.

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The work of the internal audit team contributes to the achievement of all of the Council's priorities.

6.0 Background information

6.1 Each quarter the Head of Audit and Risk produces a report summarising the work of Risk Services and this includes the overall assurance statements for all audit reviews completed in the quarter. The Risk Services Quarterly Report is reported to the Corporate Leadership Team prior to being presented at Audit Committee.

6.2 On the completion of each audit an overall assurance statement is provided which summarises the strength of controls in the area being audited. The opinions can provide positive assurance, such as when controls are identified to be good or adequate, or negative assurance when the controls are considered to be inadequate or uncontrolled.

6.3 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.0 List of Appendices:

7.1 Appendix 6(a) – Risk Services Quarter One Report.

8.0 Financial considerations:

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

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 All work undertaken by Risk Services is in line with relevant legislation. This is particularly important when undertaking fraud investigations where a number of regulations need to be adhered to.

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 providing support to all services in relation to risk and control. Risks that have been identified in the quarter are reported in the summary report.

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 The report was considered by the Corporate Leadership Team on 31 August 2021.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 National Audit Office - Initial learning from the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic (May 2021).