



Audit Committee



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Report for:	Audit Committee
Title of report:	Draft Internal Audit Annual Report
Date:	24 th July 2024
Report on behalf of:	Councillor Michela Capozzi, Portfolio Holder for Corporate and Commercial Services
Part:	I
If Part II, reason:	N/A
Appendices:	Appendix A- Draft Internal Audit Annual Report
Background papers:	None
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	None.

Report Author / Responsible Officer

Fiona Jump, Head of Financial Services



Fiona.jump@dacorum.gov.uk / 01442 228162 (ext. 2162)

Corporate Priorities	Ensuring efficient, effective and modern service delivery
Wards affected	All
Purpose of the report:	1. To provide committee with the Internal Audit Annual Report and Head of Internal Audit's Annual Opinion.
Recommendation to the decision maker:	1. Note the contents of the report.

Period for post policy/project review:	An update on progress against the approved Internal Audit programme is brought to committee on a regular basis during the financial year.
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1 Background

Attached at Appendix A is the Annual Internal Audit Report for 2023/24 produced by the Council's Internal Auditor TIAA. The report provides a summary of internal audit reviews completed during 2023/24 together with a summary of recommendations and observations made by Internal Audit. The report also includes the Head of Internal Audit's Annual Audit Opinion on the Council's system of risk management, controls and governance processes.

2 Levels of assurance assessment.

TIAA use four levels of assurance assessment when undertaking internal audit review:

Substantial Assurance	There is a robust system of internal controls operating effectively to ensure that risks are managed and process objectives achieved.
Reasonable Assurance	The system of internal controls is generally adequate and operating effectively but some improvements are required to ensure that risks are managed and process objectives achieved.
Limited Assurance	The system of internal controls is generally inadequate or not operating effectively and significant improvements are required to ensure that risks are managed and process objectives achieved.
No Assurance	There is a fundamental breakdown or absence of core internal controls requiring immediate action.

Internal audit recommendations are rated from 1 (urgent), 2 (important) or 3 (routine), with 1 being urgently required for implementation.

3 Financial and value for money implications:

A robust programme of internal audit activity supports the delivery of value for money by the Council.

4 Legal Implications

The Council is required by law to make arrangements to undertake effective internal audit of its activities.

5 Risk implications:

The Council's internal audit programme is compiled on a risk-led basis.

6 Equalities, Community Impact and Human Rights

None arising directly from the report.

7 Sustainability implications (including climate change, health and wellbeing, community safety)

None arising directly from the report.

8 Council infrastructure (including Health and Safety, HR/OD, assets and other resources)

None arising directly from the report.

9 Conclusion

The Draft Annual Internal Audit Report for 2023/24 provide a summary of internal audit reviews carried out during 2023/24 together with an overall opinion on the Council's internal control arrangements from the Head of Internal Audit.

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