

18. Report from Audit Committee

Purpose of report

1. To inform the Authority of the proceedings of the Audit Committee Meeting held on 9 May 2012.
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Recommendation

The Audit Committee recommends that the Authority note the proceedings of the Committee Meeting held on 9 May 2012.

Internal Audit Update – Worcestershire County Council

2. The Committee considered an update on Worcestershire County Council Internal Audit activities since the Audit Committee meeting on 18 January 2012.
3. The Treasurer advised that Worcestershire County Council were working to complete the audits they were undertaking now that Worcestershire Internal Audit Shared Service had taken over the Authority's internal audit work.
4. The Authority had recently received an audit report on capital projects which had particularly focussed on the Pebworth building scheme. Recommendations from this audit had been incorporated within recommendations for the Authority's new arrangements for project management.
5. The Committee noted the report.

Internal Audit Update – Worcestershire Internal Audit Shared Service

6. The Committee considered a report that provided an update on Worcestershire Internal Audit Shared Service internal audit activities since the Audit Committee meeting held on 18 January 2012.
7. The Acting Service Manager for Worcestershire Internal Audit Service presented the report.
8. The Committee was advised of the audit work that had been undertaken during the last quarter 2011/12. Five audits had been undertaken namely:

Payroll and Pension
Debtors
Creditors
Budgets and Budgetary Control
Segregation of duties follow up

9. Members were advised that these audits had not identified any areas of concern.
10. The Committee noted the report.

Audit Committee Update – Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Authority Audit 2011/12

11. The Committee considered a report from the Audit Commission that provided a progress report on delivering responsibilities as the Authority's external auditors and an update on the externalisation of the Audit Practice.
12. The District Auditor presented the report. Members were advised of progress regarding financial statements and the Value for Money conclusion. Members were also updated on the externalisation of the Audit Practice. The contract for West Midlands had been awarded to Grant Thornton and the contract would be let from 2012/13 on a five year basis. However Members were advised that the District Auditor and Audit Manager would complete the 2011/12 audit.
13. Members were advised that the fee for the 2012/13 audit would be reduced by 40% but Members were assured that this would not impact on the amount of audit work undertaken.
14. The Committee noted the report.

Financial Considerations

Consideration	Yes/No	Reference in Report i.e. paragraph no.
There are financial issues that require consideration	N	

Legal Considerations

Consideration	Yes/No	Reference in Report i.e. paragraph no.
There are legal issues e.g. contractual and procurement, reputational issues that require consideration	N	

Additional Considerations

15. The table below sets out any additional issues arising from the proposals contained in this report and identifies the relevant paragraphs in the report where such issues are addressed.

Consideration	Yes/No	Reference in Report i.e. paragraph no.
Resources (e.g. Assets, ICT, Human Resources, Training & Development, Sustainability).	N	
Strategic Policy Links (e.g. IRMP, Authority Plan, Equality & Diversity, Partnerships, Environmental Impact).	N	
Risk Management / Health & Safety (e.g. risk management and control measures, risk register score).	N	
Consultation with Representative Bodies	N	

Supporting Information

Background papers:
Agenda and Reports from Audit Committee 09 May 2012

Contact Officer

Committee Services
(01905-368367)
Email: ,committeeservices@hwfire.org.uk