Audit and Corporate Governance Committee Report



Listening Learning Leading

Report of Audit Manager

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To: Audit and Corporate Governance Committee

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AGENDA ITEM NO 8

Internal Audit Management Report Quarter 4 2008/2009

Purpose of Report

- 1. The purpose of this report is:
 - to report on management issues
 - to summarise the progress of internal audit against the 2008/2009 audit plan up to the 16 March 2009.
 - to summarise the priorities and planned audit work for the remainder of quarter 4 2008/2009.
- 2. The Committee is asked to note the report.

Background

- 3. The CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government in the UK 2006 states that the Head of Internal Audit should prepare a risk-based audit plan, which should outline the assignments to be carried out and the broad resources required to deliver the plan.
- 4. The CIPFA Code also states that the Audit Committee should approve the annual Internal Audit Plan and monitor progress against the plan. This Committee approved the annual Internal Audit Plan on the 5 March 2008.

Management Issues

5. Auditor Vacancy

There was a significant interest in the Auditor position, and interviews were held on 23 and 24 February 2009. A formal offer has been made and accepted, and the new Auditor will be in post from the 1 April 2009.

6. Year-End Workplan

The team has made a significant effort to absorb the additional workload created by the vacant position, and this is evidenced by the reported increase this quarter in the level of chargeable work below. Planned audits remain on track, but there is potential for three audits to be in progress at the year-end.

7. Payroll

Following the appointment of the new shared management team, the payroll function will be moving to Finance from 1 April 2009. A management decision has been made for the Audit Manager to temporarily manage the payroll function on a consultancy / system development basis, in order to harmonise payroll processes and strengthen procedures and controls. It is anticipated that this arrangement will be in place for a period of 12 months, and the Audit Manager's time will be split 60 per cent on internal audit and 40 per cent on payroll. In order to maintain independence, Mazars (our internal audit contractors) will audit payroll for the next three years, and report on this audit directly to the Head of Finance. Payroll does not fall under the remit of this Committee, and will be monitored by the RSSP Strategic Board.

Progress against the 2008/2009 Audit Plan

- 8. Progress against the approved audit plan has been calculated for the quarter up to the 16 March 2009 and year to date and is summarised in **Appendix 2** attached.
- 9. Performance figures are as follows:

	Target	YTD	Q1 08/09	Q2 08/09	Q3 08/09	Q4 08/09
Chargeable	71.5%	70%	66.5%	67%	71%	78.5%
Non-Chargeable	10%	12%	14.5%	14.5%	9.5%	9.5%
Lost	18.5%	18%	19%	18.5%	19.5%	12%

- 10. The performance figures for Q4 show a positive trend towards reaching the annual targets. The section has made a significant effort this quarter to reduce the level of non-chargeable work, and there has also been a reduction in the level of lost days. The Audit Manager will report in more detail on annual performance at the next meeting.
- 11. As at the 16 March 2009, the status of audit work is as follows:

Planned

Strategic, operational and financial assurance work known and approved by the Audit and Governance Committee.

	Planned	Complete	Draft	In progress	To commence
PLANNED	48	30 (62.5%)	4 (8%)	11 (23%)	3 (6.5%)
Joint	34	19	3	10	2
SODC	6	4	1	1	0
VWHDC	8	7	0	0	1

Adhoc

Unplanned project work based on agreed terms of reference with the Audit Manager (i.e. implementation of new systems) and responsive work issued and agreed by the S151 Officer, Members or Senior Management Team (i.e. investigations).

	Planned	Complete	Draft	In progress	To commence
ADHOC	5	3	0	0	2
Joint	0	0	0	0	0
SODC	4	2	0	0	2 (09/10)
VWHDC	1	1	0	0	0

Follow Up

Work undertaken to ensure that agreed recommendations have been implemented.

(To Be Updated)	Planned	Complete	Draft	In progress	To commence
FOLLOW - UP	55	30	0	25	0
SODC	25	14	0	11	0
VWHDC	30	16	0	14	0

Priorities for remainder of 2008/2009 Quarter 4 (January 2009 – March 2009)

- 12. The priority for the remainder of guarter 4 is:
 - to complete the 2008/2009 planned audit programme;
 - to allocate and plan for 2009/2010 guarter 1 planned audit work;
 - to assist VWHDC Audit and Governance Committee in completing their self-assessment review.
- 13. Planned audit work which is currently ongoing and has been scheduled for quarter 4 is as follows:

Joint Audits	SODC Audits	VWHDC Audits
Agresso	Didcot Arts Centre	Oxfordshire Waste Partnership
Corporate Governance	Tourism	
Council Charges		
Creditor Payments (VWHDC)		
Disaster Recovery		
Emergency Planning		
Freedom of Information (VWHDC)		
GIS		
Housing and Council Tax Benefits		
Human Resources		
Internal Recharges		
Payroll		
Performance Management		
Post Room (SODC)		
Stock Control (SODC)		
Sundry Debtors		

14. Follow-up work which is scheduled for quarter 4 is as follows:

Joint Audits	SODC Audits	VWHDC Audits
Consultation (VWHDC) Gifts and Hospitality (SODC) Out of Hours	Bank Contract Planning Control	Affordable Housing Business Continuity Planning
Data Protection (VWHDC)	Land Charges Licensing Bank Reconciliation	Discretionary Grants Guildhall Homelessness and Temp. Acc
101	Concessionary Fares	Land and Property Property Gazetteer
		Rent Accounting Tender Process

ADRIANNA PENN AUDIT MANAGER

System Name	Status	Ē) s	Exception Issues	Audit Opinion	sos		eq		eq		eq	d d
As at 16 March 2009		Audit Allocation	Total Days Used			No. of Recs	High	No. Agreed	Medium	No. Agreed	Low	No. Agreed	Total Not Agreed
JOINT													
Academy SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	19		Satisfactory Satisfactory	7 7	0	N/A N/A	5 5	5 5	2 2	1 1	1
Agresso SODC VWHDC	Draft Out	20	20		,								
Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	13.5		Limited Limited	11	4	4	5	5	2	2	0
Brown Bin Scheme SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	20.5		Limited Limited	6 10	0 4	N/A 4	4 4	4 4	2 2	2 2	0
Budgetary Control SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	23		Satisfactory Satisfactory	7 5	0	N/A N/A	1 0	1 N/A	6 5	6 5	0
Capital Accounting SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	14.5		Satisfactory Full	6	0	N/A N/A	5 1	5 1	1 0	1 0	0
Consultation (Public and Staff) SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	11		Limited Limited	17 17	5 5	5 5	10 10	10 10	2 2	2 2	0
Contract Monitoring SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	24		Satisfactory Limited	4 5	0 4	N/A 4	3 1	3 1	1 0	1 N/A	0
Corporate Governance SODC VWHDC	TOR Sent	20											
Council Charges SODC VWHDC	In Progress	20											
Council Tax SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	28.5	First key financial system audit for Auditor and familiarisation with system required.	Satisfactory Satisfactory	8 4	1 0	1 N/A	4	4	3	3 3	0
Creditor Payments SODC VWHDC	Completed Draft Out	20	18.5		Limited	22	3	3	11	11	8	8	0
Disaster Recovery SODC VWHDC	In Progress	20											

System Name	Status	tion	Days	Exception Issues	Audit Opinion	Recs		lreed	E	lreed		lreed	Total Not Agreed
As at 16 March 2009		Audit Allocation	Total E Used			No. of Recs	High	No. Agreed	Medium	No. Agreed	Low	No. Agreed	Tota Agr
JOINT													
Emergency Planning SODC VWHDC	In Progress	20											
Freedom of Information SODC VWHDC	Completed In Progress	20			Satisfactory	2	0	N/A	1	1	1	1	0
General Ledger SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	20		Limited Satisfactory	17 7	1	1	7 3	7 3	9	9	0
Gifts and Hospitality SODC VWHDC	Completed	10	8		Satisfactory Satisfactory	11 7	0	N/A N/A	6 3	6	5 4	4 4	1 0
GIS SODC VWHDC	In Progress	20									-		
Housing & Council Tax Benefits SODC VWHDC	Draft Out	20	21.5										
Human Resources SODC VWHDC	TOR Sent	20											
ICT SODC VWHDC	Postponed to 2009/2010	20	N/A	The Head of Org. Change has requested a postponement, due to harmonisation work it is completing. A Disaster Recovery audit is being undertaken, and ICT have had input into 4 other audits. The Audit Manager is satisfied that sufficient work has been undertaken in ICT, and has postponed this review to 2009/2010.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Internal Recharges SODC VWHDC	In Progress	20											
NNDR SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	19.5		Satisfactory Satisfactory	7	0	N/A N/A	3 2	3 2	4 5	4 5	0
Out of Hours Arrangements SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	18		Satisfactory Satisfactory	7 10	0	N/A N/A	1 4	1 4	6	6 6	0
Payroll SODC VWHDC	In Progress	20			·								

System Name As at 16 March 2009	Status	Audit Allocation	Total Days Used	Exception Issues	Audit Opinion	No. of Recs	High	No. Agreed	Medium	No. Agreed	Low	No. Agreed	Total Not Agreed
JOINT		44											
Petty Cash Procedures	Completed	10	13.5									ı	
SODC VWHDC					Satisfactory Satisfactory	12 10	0	N/A N/A	8 5	8 4	4 5	4 5	0
Petty Cash Spot Checks SODC VWHDC	Completed	6	5.5		Full Full	0	N/A N/A						
Performance Management SODC VWHDC	Draft Out In Progress	16			T dii		14/7	14/74		14/71	14/71	14/7	10,71
Post Room SODC VWHDC	TOR Sent Completed	20	13.5	Recs agreed in principle pending corporate administration review.	Satisfactory	11	0	N/A	6	6	5	5	0
Receipt of Income Arrangements SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	17.5		Satisfactory Satisfactory	9	1 2	1 2	7	7 1	1 0	1 0	0
Risk Management SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	6	Only consultancy work required at SODC.	N/A Limited	N/A 13	N/A 4	N/A 4	N/A 7	N/A 7	N/A 2	N/A 2	N/A 0
SOLL Leisure SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	27	Difficulties in verifying SOLL information. Issues with format of Mazars' files and reports.	Satisfactory Satisfactory	5 7	0	N/A N/A	3 5	3 5	2 2	2 2	0
Stock Control SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	21		Satisfactory Satisfactory	12 9	0	N/A N/A	6 7	6 7	6 2	6 2	0
Sundry Debtors SODC VWHDC	In Progress	20			,								
Treasury Management SODC VWHDC	Completed	20	19.5		Satisfactory Satisfactory	4 4	0	N/A N/A	0	N/A N/A	4 4	3 4	1 0
SODC					•								
Car Park Income	Completed	10	13		Limited	15	3	3	7	7	5	5	0
Complaints Process	Completed	10	4		Satisfactory	11	0	N/A	6	6	5	3	2
Concessionary Fares	Completed	10	8.5		Satisfactory	3	0	N/A	1	1	2	2	0
Didcot Arts Centre	Draft Out	15	9.5										
Licensing	Completed	10	8.5		Limited	20	3	3	14	14	3	3	0
Pest Control	Postponed to	10	N/A	A decision has been made to outsource	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

System Name As at 16 March 2009	Status	Audit Allocation	Total Days Used	Exception Issues	Audit Opinion	No. of Recs	High	No. Agreed	Medium	No. Agreed	Low	No. Agreed	Total Not Agreed
JOINT													
	2009/2010			this function, and the contract is currently out to tender. This area will be reviewed in 2009/2010.									
Tourism (Marketing Contract)	In Progress	10											
VWHDC													
Bar Management	Completed	10	9		Satisfactory	6	0	N/A	2	2	4	4	0
Business Continuity Planning	Completed	10	8		Satisfactory	10	1	1	6	6	3	3	0
DSO	Completed	8	16	New Auditor	Limited	11	6	6	3	3	2	2	0
Gazatteer Unit	Completed	7	9		Satisfactory	7	0	N/A	3	3	4	4	0
Guildhall	Completed	10	8		Satisfactory	10	0	N/A	4	3	6	6	1
Oxfordshire Waste Partnership	TOR Sent	10											
Rent Accounting	Completed	10	9		Limited	10	3	3	4	3	3	3	1
Tender Process	Completed	10	17	New Auditor	Satisfactory	5	0	N/A	4	3.5	1	1	0.5
TOTALS	-	812	522.5	Full Satisfactory Limited Nil	3 33 14 0	419	51	51	209	205.5	159	153	9.5

FOLLOW UP AUDITS 2007/2008

System Name	Total Days Used	Audit Opinion Issued	Total No. of Recs Agreed	Implemented	Partly Implemented	Not Implemented	Ongoing
SODC							
Building Control	0.5	Satisfactory	3	1	2	0	0
Didcot Wave and Leisure	0.5	Satisfactory	5 (1 now obsolete)	3	1	0	0

TOTALS	20.5		164	92	26	39	7
White Horse Tennis & Leisure Centre	0.5	Limited	4	2	0	1	1
Benefit Counter-Fraud (2 nd)	1	Satisfactory	3	1	0	2	0
Abingdon Local Services Point	1	Satisfactory	11	11	0	0	0
Concessionary Fares	1	Satisfactory	6	2	0	3	1
Elections	1	Satisfactory	6	6	0	0	0
Benefit Counter-Fraud (1st)	1	Satisfactory	4	1	0	2	1
Environmental Protection	0.5	Good (now Full)	4	3	1	0	0
SOLL Leisure	0.5	Satisfactory	6	6	0	0	0
Cash	1	Satisfactory	23 (14 review in 08/09 work, 9 followed up)	7	0	2	0
Insurance	1	Satisfactory	5	1	0	4	0
Health and Safety	2	Satisfactory	17	10	5	2	0
Excess Charges	0.5	Good (now Full)	2	2	0	0	0
Recyling	1.5	Satisfactory	12	5	3	4	0
Refuse Collection and Street Cleansing	1	Satisfactory	8	3	2	3	0
VWHDC	0.5	Cationationy		<u> </u>			
Officers Travel and Subsistence	0.5	Satisfactory	9	5	1	3	0
Housing Development	0.5	Satisfactory	5	2	0	2	1
Data Protection	0.5	Limited	6	1	2	3	0
Dog Control	0.5	Satisfactory Limited	9	6	1	2	0
Waste Management Business Continuity Planning	0.5	Full	1	3	0	3	0 2
Cleansing Service	0.5	Satisfactory	1	0	1	0	0
Housing Allocations	1.5	Satisfactory	6	5	1	0	0
Elections	1	Limited	14	5	5	3	1

FOLLOW UP AUDITS 2008/2009

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SODC							
Petty Cash	0.5	Satisfactory	12	4	3	5	0
Complaints	0.5	Satisfactory	9	3	2	4	0
Consultation	0.5	Limited	17	0	17	0	0
VWHDC							
Gifts and Hospitality	0.5	Satisfactory	7	7	0	0	0
Bar Management	0.5	Satisfactory	6	6	0	0	0
TOTALS	2.5		51	20	22	9	0

UNPLANNED WORK 2008/2009

CONSULTANCY

System Name Status		Audit Allocation	Total Days Used	Requested By		
JOINT						
None	-	-	-	-		
SODC						
Focus Group Cash Payments	Completed	3	6	Chief Executive		
S106 Commuted Sums	On hold to Q1 2009/2010	5	3.5	Strategic Directors		
VWHDC						
None	-	-	-	-		

CONTINGENCY

System Name	Status	Audit Allocation	Total Days Used	Requested By		
JOINT						
None	-	-	-	-		
SODC						
Investigation 1	Completed	10	15	Chief Executive		
VWHDC						
Investigation 1	Completed	To Completion	29.5	Strategic Director		

SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

System Name	Status	Audit Allocation	Total Days Used	Requested By		
JOINT						
None	-	-	-	-		
SODC						
Fit for the Future	On hold to Q2 2009/2010	-	-	Strategic Director		
VWHDC						
None	-	-	-	-		