

AC5. Internal Audit Plan 2018/19

The Committee considered a report by the Internal Audit Manager presenting the Internal Audit Plan for 2018/19.

The proposed audit plan for 2017/18 with 23 associated assignments (annually recurring, committed and indicative) was set out in appendices 1 to 3 of the report.

The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards “017 (PSIAS) require the preparation of a risk based internal Audit Plan setting out the Internal Audit team’s work programme. The joint working arrangement with Clackmannanshire Council had initially been set up as a one year pilot with extension beyond 2017/18 dependent upon satisfactory delivery of planned Internal Audit work. On the basis that planned 2017/18 Falkirk and Clackmannanshire Council work would be delivered, the Joint Working Agreement had been rolled forward for a further two years (covering 2018/19 and 2019/20) with the option of a further year. As a result, Falkirk Council’s Internal Audit team would provide management and supplemental resources to deliver Clackmannanshire Council’s internal audit programme. The report set out the benefits to Falkirk Council in the arrangement together with risks. A total of 450 days of auditor time, with a further 186 days of Internal Audit Manager time were allocated to the delivery of Clackmannanshire Council’s Internal Audit work in the arrangement.

The Committee sought assurance in regard to the benefits of the agreement with Clackmannanshire Council and on the impact on the ability of the Internal Audit team to deliver its plan for 2017/18. The Internal Audit Manager confirmed that the risks had been assessed but considered that the arrangement would benefit both Falkirk Council and Clackmannanshire Council and that it would not prevent the audit plan being delivered. He confirmed that fewer days were allocated to the same number of assignments in 2017/18 compared to 2016/17. He stressed however, that the plan was realistic and deliverable.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the resources available to Internal Audit**
- (2) approved planned Internal Audit coverage for 2018/2019; and**
- (3) noted that progress will be reported to the Committee on an ongoing basis.**