

Crawley Borough Council

Report to the Audit Committee

5 September 2023

Internal Audit Progress Report

Report of the Head of Corporate Finance – FIN/630

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Committee has a responsibility to review the Internal Audit Progress report to ensure that action has been taken by relevant managers on risk based issues identified by Internal Audit.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The Committee is requested to receive this report and note progress to date, as at 31 July 2023.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 3.1. The Committee has a responsibility to ensure that action has been taken by relevant managers on risk based issues identified by Internal Audit.

4. Background

- 4.1. The Committee approved its Internal Audit Plan at its meeting of 20 March 2023.

- 4.2. Under the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015, the Council is responsible for:

- ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of functions and includes arrangements for the management of risk; and
- undertaking an effective internal audit to evaluate the effectiveness of its risk management, control and governance processes, taking into account public sector internal auditing standards and guidance.

- 4.3. In accordance with proper internal audit practices (Public Sector Internal Audit Standards), the Chief Internal Auditor is required to provide a written status report to the Audit Committee, summarising:

- The status of 'live' internal audit reports (outstanding management actions);
- an update on progress against the annual audit plan;
- a summary of internal audit performance, planning and resourcing issues;
- a summary of significant issues that may impact on the Chief Internal Auditor's annual opinion.

- 4.4. The progress report is attached at Appendix A and provides a clear and transparent articulation of internal audit activity, performance, and outcomes during the period up to the end of July 2023.