

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

20 MARCH 2023

1. **INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN – 2023/24**

Report of the Audit Services Manager [Sandwell MBC].

RECOMMENDED

1.1 THAT the Internal Audit Plan for 2023/24 be approved.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT.**

2.1 This report is submitted for member comment and approval.

3. **BACKGROUND**

3.1 The attached report details the proposed Internal Audit Plan for 2023/24, with an indicative plan covering the period 2024/25 to 2025/26.

3.2 The Internal Audit Plan is a fluid plan which may be updated periodically to reflect changes in the risks faced by the Authority. During the period covered by the plan, the priority and frequency of audit work may be subject to amendment in order to recognise alterations in the assessment of assurance need/risk analysis, caused by changes within the Authority and the requirements of the Audit and Risk Committee and senior managers.

3.3 During the year, regular meetings will be held with senior managers and the external auditors to review the plan and discuss the scope, nature and timescales of planned reviews. Any key changes to the plan will be brought before the Audit and Risk Committee for approval.

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 4.1 In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out. The matters contained in this report will not lead to and/or do not relate to a policy change.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations Act states that a relevant body must “maintain an adequate and effective system of internal audit of its accounting records and of its system of internal control in accordance with the proper internal audit practices”.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Internal Audit Plan 2023/24 and indicative plan for 2024/25 to 2025/26.

Peter Farrow
Audit Services Manager, Sandwell MBC