This report is public.	
Internal Audit Progress Report 2026/27	
Committee	Audit and Governance Committee
Date of Committee	30 September 2026
Portfolio Holder presenting the report	Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor David Hingley
Date Portfolio Holder agreed report	17 September 2026
Report of	Assistant Director of Finance, (S151 Officer)

Purpose of report

This report provides the Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee with an update on delivery of the internal audit work programme for 2026/27.

1. Recommendations

The Audit and Governance Committee is recommended to:

1.1 Note the progress made in delivering the 2026/27 internal audit work programme, and plans for delivery over the remainder of the year.

2. Executive Summary

2.1 The work of internal audit in local government is governed by the Global Internal Audit Standards in the UK Public Sector. This regime is made up of the Institute of Internal Auditors' Global Internal Audit Standards (including Topical Requirements), and the Application Note: Global Internal Audit Standards in the UK Public Sector.

2.2 In accordance with these standards, periodic reports on internal audit work are presented to this committee.

2.3 The committee is required to consider the progress and outcomes of internal audit work as part of its responsibility for overseeing the internal audit service. The report (contained in appendix 1) provides the information required by the committee to fulfil its oversight role.

2.4 Overall, the report shows that reasonable progress is being made in delivering the 2026/27 work programme. It includes outcomes from one audit which has been finalised since the June meeting of this committee.

2.5 The report updates the committee on the status of ongoing work, and sets out priorities for the remainder of the year. It also shows that a generally good level of progress is being made by the council to implement actions agreed in previous audit reports.

Implications & Impact Assessments

Implications	Commentary			
Finance	This is an information report on the progress made in delivering the 2026/27 internal audit work programme and does not have any financial implications. The work carried out by Veritau is within budget. Rachel Ainsworth, FBP (Resources), 16th September 2026			
Legal	There are no legal implications associated with this report. Shiraz Sheikh, Assistant Director of Law, Governance and Monitoring Officer, 16 September 2026			
Risk Management	The council will be non-compliant with the GIAS if the performance of the internal audit function, and the results of its work, are not reported to the committee. This could result in external scrutiny and challenge. Celia Prado-Teeling, Performance & Insight Team Leader, 16 September 2026			
Impact Assessments	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Commentary
Equality Impact				N/A
A Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		X		N/A
B Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		X		N/A
Climate & Environmental Impact		X		N/A
ICT & Digital Impact		X		N/A
Data Impact		X		N/A
Procurement & subsidy		X		N/A

Council Priorities	This report cuts across all four of the council's priorities, as set out in its 2025-30 corporate strategy. Internal audit's contribution to these priorities is to provide independent, risk-based, assurance, advice, and insight relating to the council's systems of governance, risk management, and internal control. By doing so, internal audit supports the organisation to create the conditions to become a modern council inspiring and enabling positive, lasting change.
Human Resources	N/A
Property	N/A
Consultation & Engagement	No consultation has been required in the preparation of this report. The internal audit work programme, on which this report is based, was itself subject to consultation with senior management and with members of the Audit and Governance Committee.

Supporting Information

3. Background

3.1 The 2026/27 internal audit work programme was approved by the Audit and Governance Committee at its 18 March 2026 meeting.

3.2 To conform to professional standards, and the council's audit charter, the Head of Internal Audit must report periodically to this committee on the progress made against the internal audit work programme, and on the results of audit activities undertaken.

3.3 Appendix 1 to this report provides an update on progress made in delivering the 2026/27 internal audit work programme. This includes a summary of completed work, work currently in progress, and work scheduled for the remainder of the year. It also reports on outcomes from the follow-up of actions agreed in previous audit reports.

4. Details

4.1 The detailed progress report is included in appendix 1 – Internal Audit Progress Report 2026/27.

5. Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

5.1 The nature of this report is such that alternative options are not appropriate. To discharge its internal audit functions under the terms of reference for the Audit and Governance Committee, it is required to note the progress made in delivering the 2026/27 internal audit work programme.

6 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

6.1 The Audit and Governance Committee is recommended to note the progress made in delivering the council's internal audit work programme. This is so that it can fulfil its responsibility for overseeing the work of internal audit. This responsibility is defined in the committee's terms of reference.

Decision Information

Key Decision	N/A
Subject to Call in	No
If not, why not subject to call in	N/A
Ward(s) Affected	All

Document Information

Appendices	
Appendix 1	Internal Audit Progress Report 2026/27
Background Papers	None
Reference Papers	Internal Audit Work Programme 2026/27
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Executive Director Approval (unless ExecutiveREpor Director or Statutory Officer report)	Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer), 17 September 2026