



**Governance & Audit
Committee**

16 June 2020

Subject: Internal Audit Annual Report – 2019/2020

Report by:	Lucy Pledge (Head Audit & Risk Management – Lincolnshire County Council)
Contact Officer:	Alan Robinson, Monitoring Officer
Purpose / Summary:	This report gives the Head of Internal Audit's opinion on the adequacy of the Council's, governance, risk and control environment and the delivery of the Internal Audit Plan for 2019/2020.

RECOMMENDATION(S):	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That the Committee consider the Head of Audit's Annual Report and Opinion for 2019/2020 and identifies any actions it requires.2. That the Committee take into account this Annual Report and the Head of Internal Audit's opinion when considering the Council's Annual Governance Statement 2019.
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IMPLICATIONS

Legal: None directly arising from the report

Financial:

Staffing: None.

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights:

*NB: A full impact assessment **HAS TO BE** attached if the report relates to any new or revised policy or revision to service delivery/introduction of new services.*

None arising from this report

Risk Assessment: N/A

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities: None arising from this report

Background Papers: No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one to which Rule 14 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

Yes

No

X

Key Decision:

Yes

No

X

1. The Annual Internal Audit Report aims to present a summary of the audit work undertaken over the past year. In particular:
 - Include an opinion on the overall adequacy of and effectiveness of the governance framework and internal control system and the extent to which the Council can rely on it;
 - Inform how the plan was discharged and of overall outcomes of the work undertaken;
 - Draw attention to any issues particularly relevant to the Annual Governance Statement.
2. Our internal audit service continues to work well with the Governance and Audit Committee and Management to help the Council maintain effective governance, risk and control processes.
3. West Lindsey DC management team were pleased to receive this view from our Head of Internal Audit. Following a year where a vast majority of audits have provided High and Substantial levels of assurance it is surprising that all areas are viewed as adequate. However it is understood that the current climate of the COVID 19 outbreak would make it very difficult to form a more positive conclusion.