

INTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE



PRESENTED TO: **AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

DATE OF MEETING: **28 SEPTEMBER 2016**

OFFICER PRESENTING REPORT: **HEAD OF FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT;
CONOR BYRNE**

1. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF REPORT

1.1 To inform the Committee of the outcome of audit activity during 2016/17.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Committee **NOTE** the report.

3. BACKGROUND AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 RSM's Audit Progress Report is attached as **Appendix A**. Two audit reports were due to be produced for this committee meeting.

3.2 The audit on the Emergency Services Communications Project has been completed and the auditor's findings are attached as **Appendix B**.

3.3 The audit on sickness absence management has been postponed as the HR Department has been undergoing a staff restructure. The audit will now take place during quarter 3 and the outcomes will be presented to the next Audit and Governance Committee.

3.4 A representative from RSM will attend the meeting to update members.

4. FINANCIAL, LEGAL, RISK MANAGEMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The employment of internal auditors helps assure members that the Authority's finances are in good order. Risk management procedures and progress are regularly audited.

5. COMPLIANCE WITH STANDING ORDERS / FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

5.1 Audits are designed to ensure that financial regulations are adequate and complied with.

6. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC COMMITMENTS

6.1 Commitment 5 – We will ensure that Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service provides good value for money.

7. ASSESSMENT AGAINST THE PARTNERSHIP FOR COMMON SENSE

7.1 No direct implications.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015

9. COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS

9.1 Chief Fire Officer

The Chief Fire Officer was consulted during the preparation of this report.

9.2 Head of Finance and Procurement

Report author.

9.3 Monitoring Officer

Report Sponsor.

Author: Conor Byrne
Head of Finance
0118 938 4720

Sponsor: Trevor Ferguson
Deputy Chief Fire Officer/ Monitoring Officer
0118 938 4616

Date of Report: 16 September 2016