

# **AUDIT and GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 11 JANUARY 2017**

## **REPORT OF THE AUDIT WORKING GROUP (AWG)**

The Audit Working Group met on Wednesday 14 December 2016

Attendance:

Full Meeting:

Chairman Dr Geoff Jones; Cllr Sandy Lovatt, Cllr Alison Rooke; Cllr Nick Hards; Cllr David Wilmshurst; Nick Graham Chief Legal Officer; Ian Dyson, Assistant Chief Finance Officer (Assurance); Sarah Cox, Chief Internal Auditor; Joanne Hilliar (minutes)

Part Meeting:

Alan Witty, External Audit

### **Matters to Report:**

#### **AWG 16.20 - Internal Audit Update**

The group received an update from the Chief Internal Auditor on progress against the Internal Audit Plan and the Counter Fraud Plan.

There were no material issues identified in the audit reports finalised since September 2016, with the exception of the audit of Mental Health which received an overall grading of Red. The Audit Working Group had previously reviewed the Mental Health report and the Deputy Director for Adult Social Care has attended the group and subsequently provided a further update. The group were encouraged by the positive response received so far. The Group will continue to monitor progress of implementation of the actions and will be receiving a detailed update for review at the February meeting.

An emerging issue was reported to the Group regarding the audit of the Capital Programme which was just being concluded. The initial overall grading is Red; therefore the Group requested that officers attend the February 2017 AWG to discuss the report and action plan.

The group noted the work undertaken on the Counter Fraud Plan and recent outcomes from the proactive review of travel expenses. The group reviewed the overdue Priority 1 management actions. These are subject to continued monitoring and escalation by Internal Audit to the Directorate Leadership Teams, in addition to a number of follow up audits included within the 16/17 plan.

#### **AWG 16.21 Update on Finance Improvement Plan**

The group received an update from the Assistant Chief Finance Officer (Assurance), including emerging issues and current progress in financial control improvement, which will be included in the full update to the January 2017 Audit & Governance Committee.

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 8 February 2017, 14.00 - 16.00.

## **Recommendations**

**The Committee is recommended to note the report.**

Lorna Baxter  
Chief Finance Officer

Contact: Officer: Sarah Cox, Chief Internal Auditor  
07393 001246 [sarah.cox@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.cox@oxfordshire.gov.uk)