

Committee(s): Police Authority Board – For Information	Date(s): 22/06/2020
Subject: Internal Audit Update Report	Public
Report of: Head of Audit and Risk Management	For Information
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Summary

This report provides the Committee with an update on the work of Internal Audit undertaken for the City of London Police and the Police Authority during 2019/20.

Delivery against the 2019/20 Internal Audit Plan, while substantially complete, has been impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak. The response to the outbreak of the virus continues to disrupt delivery of the Internal Audit Plan.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. This report has been prepared to provide Members with an update in relation to Internal Audit work undertaken in 2019/20, further to the regular updates provided to the Performance and Resource Management Sub-Committee. The Internal Audit Service is provided by a combination of an in-house team and via Mazars, an external partner.

Internal Audit Work Undertaken in 2019/20

2. Below is a summary of the Internal Audit work undertaken in 2019/20, the findings of these reviews have been reported to the Performance and Resource Management Sub-Committee as part of the regular Internal Audit Update and so not repeated here.

Audit	Assurance Rating	Recommendations Made		
		Red	Amber	Green
Police Premises Expenditure	Amber	0	11	2
Payroll and Overtime	Amber	0	4	0
Procurement Contract Management	Amber	0	8	0
Interpreters Fees	Amber	0	2	2
Front Desks	Amber	1	4	0
Transform Change Programme Phase 1	Green	0	0	0

3. With the exception of one review, Procurement Contract Management, suitable management responses to our reports have been received, including management action plans to address those issues raised.
4. In the case of Procurement Contract Management, while Police colleagues recognised the weaknesses identified by Internal Audit, there is an ongoing difference of opinion between City of London Police and City of London Corporation officers as to where responsibility lies for implementing the recommended control measures. Consequently, there is not an agreed management action plan for implementing the 8 Amber recommendations made. It is anticipated that the reviews of the Target Operating Model and Shared Services will clarify responsibilities here. Despite the absence of a management action plan, it is the intention to undertake a follow-up review in this area in 2020/21 to assess the extent to which the issues raised in this Audit review still exist.
5. A further three Internal Audit reviews were planned for 2019/20, completion of these reviews has been prevented by the COVID-19 outbreak and the organisation's response to this. The outstanding reviews are:
 - Workforce Planning
 - Financial Forecasting
 - Transform Phase 2
6. Fieldwork is partially complete in all three cases, at the present time, City of London Police colleagues are unable to accommodate fully Internal Audit enquiries as a result of the Police response to COVID-19. In addition to this, Workforce Planning and Financial Forecasting reviews were being delivered by the Mazars team, currently furloughed, and so the audit files have been handed over to the in-house Internal Audit Team for completion.

Future Delivery of Internal Audit Work

7. In discussion with the Assistant Commissioner, it has been agreed that Internal Audit work may recommence from 1 July 2020. While this does compress the time available to deliver the 2020/21 plan, we are confident that, with the engagement of Police colleagues, we are able to deliver those planned Audit reviews before 31 March 2021.

Conclusion

8. Members should note the outcomes of Internal Audit work undertaken in 2019/20 and the impact that the COVID-19 outbreak has had on the delivery of live and future work.

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