



Economic Prosperity, Environment and Highways Board
10 December 2015

Review of Bus Operating Contracts

Purpose of the report: Scrutiny of Services

The Board considered the summary of audit findings and the agreed management action plan (MAP) on 11 June 2015 following the internal audit review of Bus Operating Contracts in 2014/15. Since the consultation process for a local transport review was in progress at the same time, Members requested a further update in December 2015 to review the progress made to recommendations in the agreed MAP.

Introduction:

1. It has been agreed by the Chairman of the council's Economic Prosperity, Environment and Highways Board for a MAP progress update following the Internal Audit report on the review of Bus Operating Contracts to be provided to the Board on 10 December 2015.

Context

2. Internal Audit undertook a review of Bus Operating Contracts in 2014/15. The report produced as a result of this review attracted an audit opinion of "Some Improvement Needed". The MAP agreed by the Head of Service for this audit report had 2 High Priority recommendations, 4 Medium Priority recommendations and 2 Low Priority recommendations. A summary of the audit findings and recommendations is attached at **Annex A**. The agreed Management Action Plan updated to reflect the current position is attached as **Annex B**. The supporting audit report has been previously circulated in accordance with the Reporting and Escalation Policy for audit reports.
3. Officers from the service and Internal Audit will be available at the meeting, and the Board is asked to review the actions being taken to address the audit recommendations made.

Recommendations:

4. That the Board review the progress made to the recommendations in the agreed Management Action Plan and makes recommendations as necessary.

Next steps:

5. To be determined at the Board meeting.

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Sources/background papers: Internal Audit report and MAP – Review of Bus Operating Contracts 2014/15, December 2014 and the written progress update provided by officers in Travel and Transport Group.