

# Audit & Governance Committee

## Welcome...

Welcome to the Audit & Governance Committee Bulletin.

The purpose of this bulletin is to keep Members and officers up to date with local and national issues relevant to the Audit & Governance Committee.

Contents	Page No.
1. Internal Audit update	1
2. Further Information	2
3. Updates from other committees	3
4. Upcoming	4
5. Committee Contact Details	4

## Internal Audit update

<b>Current Audits</b>	<p>The following audits are currently in progress or at the planning stage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk Management</li> <li>• Financial Assessments &amp; Benefits</li> <li>• Social Media</li> <li>• Open Up Security Programme</li> <li>• Acceptable Use Policy (IT)</li> <li>• Organisational Ethics</li> <li>• Stop Smoking</li> <li>• Better Care Fund (Commissioning and Delivery)</li> </ul> <p>Members are encouraged to contact either Simon White (<a href="mailto:simon.white@surreycc.gov.uk">simon.white@surreycc.gov.uk</a>) or David John (<a href="mailto:david.john@surreycc.gov.uk">david.john@surreycc.gov.uk</a>) if they have insight they wish to contribute to the above audit reviews.</p>
<b>Counter Fraud Work</b>	<p><u>Counter Fraud Strategy</u> – The updated strategy approved by Audit and Governance Committee in December 2016 is due to go to Council in February for inclusion within the Constitution.</p> <p><u>Surrey Counter Fraud Partnership (SCFP)</u> - The SCFP is planning a Single Person Discount Review with all 11 Districts &amp; Boroughs in April 2017. The review will use data matching to identify people who may be wrongly claiming a discount on their council tax. Based on national reduction rates of 4% the exercise is forecast to produce an additional</p>

	<p>£2m in council tax payments to the council.</p> <p><u>National Fraud Initiative (NFI)</u> – the results of the Cabinet Office's NFI exercise are due to be received in January 2017.</p>
<b>Orbis Partnership</b>	We have recently held a successful joint workshop with our Internal Audit partners at East Sussex and Brighton. The day was an informative session briefing staff on our new ways of working and saw the launch of new format working papers and audit reports. These are currently being piloted and will come into effect from the new audit year and will help to promote the brand of Orbis IA with all of our clients and stakeholders.
<b>Internal Audit Plan 2017/18</b>	The Internal Audit team is currently meeting with key officers across all key service areas to consider areas for possible inclusion in the 2017/18 Internal Audit Plan. The Chief Internal Auditor is also seeking input from key members including all members of the Audit and Governance Committee. The draft plan will be presented to the Audit and Governance Committee for approval on 27 March 2017.
<b>Staffing News</b>	<p>We are pleased to congratulate a number of staff who have recently achieved professional success – Tim Semken has passed his Certified Information Systems Auditor exams and Revinder Hothi who has now passed her final exam to become a Chartered Internal Auditor.</p> <p>It is also with great sadness that we say goodbye to Sue Lewry-Jones and wish her all the best for her retirement. Sue has been with Surrey for 11 years and has contributed much in her time as Head of Internal Audit.</p>

## Further information

<b>Local Government Association</b>	<p><b>Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA): 'Opt-in' Invitations</b></p> <p>More than 220 authorities have now opted in to PSAA's national scheme for appointing auditors. It is expected that the vast majority of councils will sign up but please note the deadline is 9 March 2017. Alternatively, councils can establish an independent auditor panel or make joint arrangements with another body but this could be burdensome and costly. More information is available on PSAA's <a href="#">website</a>.</p>
<b>Local Government Association</b>	<p><b><a href="#">Fraud Awareness Workshops for Councillors</a></b></p> <p>6 February - London, 15 February - Bristol, 23 February - Salford, 27 February - London.</p> <p>With protecting the public purse never more important than it is now, the LGA and CIPFA in collaboration are running a series of free fraud awareness workshops for elected members.</p>
<b>ADSO Newsletter</b>	<p><b>Local Government Finance Bill</b></p> <p>A Bill To Make provision about non-domestic rating in England; to</p>

	<p>amend Chapter 4ZA of Part 1 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992; to confer power on the Greater London Authority and certain local authorities in England to impose levies on non-domestic ratepayers to raise money for expenditure on projects expected to promote economic development; to confer power on certain local authorities in England to impose a levy on persons with certain property interests in a business improvement district to finance projects to be carried out in the district; and for connected purposes.</p> <p><a href="http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/localgovernmentfinance.html">http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/localgovernmentfinance.html</a></p> <p>Link to Bill:- <a href="http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2016-2017/0122/cbill_2016-20170122_en_1.htm">http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2016-2017/0122/cbill_2016-20170122_en_1.htm</a></p> <p>Link to Explanatory Notes:- <a href="http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2016-2017/0122/en/17122en01.htm">http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2016-2017/0122/en/17122en01.htm</a></p>
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## Finance Update

<b>Treasury</b>	TO FOLLOW.
<b>Strategy</b>	For noting

## Updates from other Committees

Listed below are a number of committee reports that may be of interest to the Committee, as they cross into the Committee's remit or they relate to matters recently discussed at Audit & Governance Committee, or that the Committee have shown an interest in:

Cabinet	<p>At its meeting on <a href="#">22</a> November 2016, the Cabinet considered the following reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCSB report regarding Adult Social Care Funding</li> <li>• Re-commissioning Short Breaks for Disabled Children</li> <li>• Schools and High Needs Funding 2017/18</li> <li>• Sub National Transport Body</li> </ul> <p>At its meeting on <a href="#">13</a> December 2016, the Cabinet considered the following reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a Single Waste Approach</li> <li>• Investment of Programme funding to extend Superfast Broadband infrastructure to Surrey premises.</li> <li>• Supporting Economic Growth Through Investment in Transport and Highways Infrastructure - Schemes for Staines and Leatherhead</li> </ul>
Council Overview Board	<p>At its meeting on <a href="#">3</a> November 2016, the Council Overview Board considered the following reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 Month Review of ORBIS</li> </ul>

	<p>At its meeting on 4 December 2016, the Council Overview Board considered the following reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agency Staffing Update</li> </ul>
Education and Skills Board	<p>At its meeting on <a href="#">24</a> November 2016, the Education and Skills Board considered the following reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Henrietta Parker Trust Update</li> <li>• SEND Transport</li> </ul>
Economic Prosperity, Environment and Highways Board	<p>At its meeting on <a href="#">8 December 2016</a>, the Economic Prosperity, Environment and Highways Board considered the following reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil Parking Enforcement (Agency Agreements) 2016/17</li> <li>• Community Infrastructure Levy Progress Report</li> </ul>
Surrey Pension Fund Committee	<p>At its meeting on <a href="#">11</a> November 2016, the Surrey Pension Fund Committee considered the following reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breaches Policy</li> <li>• Revised Statement Of Investment Principles</li> <li>• Share Voting</li> </ul>

## Upcoming

The next meeting of the Audit & Governance Committee is on 20 February 2017. The following items are on the agenda:

- Ethical Standards - Annual Review
- Statutory Responsibilities Network
- Treasury Strategy
- External Audit - Audit Findings Report Surrey Choices
- Minimum Revenue Provision Accounting Policy Change
- Review of Effectiveness of Internal Audit 2016/17

## Committee Contacts

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