

AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE  
26 November 2020

**Orbis Internal Audit & Counter Fraud Staffing and Resources**

**SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this report is to update the Audit and Governance Committee on the staffing and resources position for the Orbis Internal Audit (Orbis IA) Service, including details of the qualifications held by staff within the service and the training and development arrangements for ensuring we continue to maintain the highest calibre personnel.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Members are asked to:

- (i) Note the report and in particular the latest position with regard to resourcing the Internal Audit service, including the professional qualifications held by our staff.

**BACKGROUND:**

1. Orbis IA was officially formed on 1 April 2018 out of the existing internal audit teams from East Sussex County Council (ESCC), Surrey County Council (SCC) and Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC), along with a small number of staff from Horsham District Council (HDC). These HDC staff joined via TUPE transfer following a new agreement for Orbis to provide internal audit services to HDC under an initial 5-year contract. Other existing external income generating clients for Orbis IA include East Sussex Fire Authority, Elmbridge Borough Council and the South Downs National Park Authority.

**INTRODUCTION:**

2. At the time of establishing Orbis IA, a new organisational structure was implemented with the intention of continuing to provide high quality, localised services to our partner and client organisations, whilst also developing specialist teams in the areas of ICT Audit and Counter Fraud, who provide these services across all partners and clients. Maintaining such specialisms within smaller individual teams prior to integration had become unsustainable, resulting in the increased costs associated with buying in services from external providers.
3. This report updates the Committee on progress made since recent recruitment exercises have come to a conclusion, which in turn updates the structure and qualifications base of the service.

**IMPLICATIONS:**

4. Financial  
Equalities  
Risk management and value for money
5. There are no direct implications (relating to finance, equalities, risk management or value for money) arising from this report.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

6. The Chief Internal Auditor and Audit Manager will continue to update members on the staffing resource available to Orbis Internal Audit should a material change in arrangements occur.

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