

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Audit & Corporate Governance Committee

DATE: 30th July 2019

CONTACT OFFICER: Neil Wilcox; Director, Finance & Resources (Section 151 Officer)

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WARD(S): All

PART I **FOR COMMENT & CONSIDERATION**

AUDIT & RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE – QUARTER 1 2019/20

1. **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to:

- Report to Audit and Corporate Governance Committee on the progress of finalising draft Internal Audit reports
- Report to Audit and Corporate Governance on the progress of the implementation of Internal Audit recommendations

2. **Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action**

The Audit and Corporate Governance Committee is requested to comment on and note the attached reports.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**

3a. **Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities –**

The actions contained within the attached reports are designed to improve the governance of the organisation and will contribute to all of the emerging Community Strategy Priorities

Priorities:

- *Improving Mental Health and Wellbeing*
- *Protecting Vulnerable Children*
- *Housing*
- *Increasing life expectancy by focusing on inequalities*

3b. **Five Year Plan Outcomes**

The actions contained within this report will assist in achieving all of the five year plan outcomes.

4. **Other Implications**

(a) Financial

There are no financial implications of proposed action

(b) Risk Management

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Risk/Threat/Opportunity</i>	<i>Mitigation(s)</i>
<i>That Audit & Risk Committee is requested to comment on and note the attached reports</i>	<i>This report concerns risk management across the Council</i>	

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Act or other legal implications in this report

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

There is no identified need for an EIA

5. **Supporting Information**

5.1 **Finalising Internal Audit Reports**

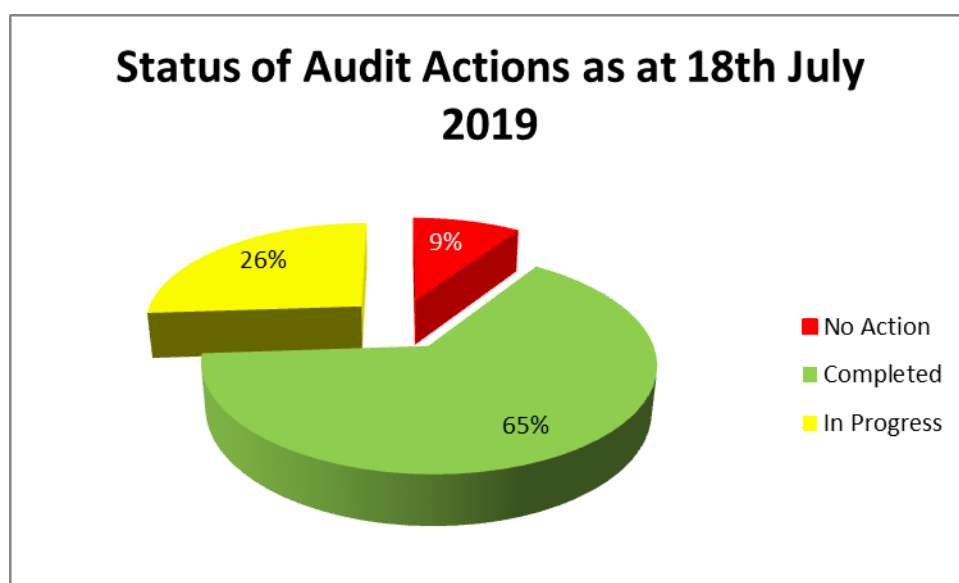
5.1.1 The table below shows those “Assurance” Internal Audits that remain in draft and were to be finalised by 18th July 2019

Audit	Audit Plan Year	Audit Sponsor	Assurance Level	Date to be Finalised by	Comments
Council Tax	17/18	Neil Wilcox	Reasonable Assurance	16 th Dec 2017	With RSM Awaiting re-issue of draft
Conflict of Interest	18/19	Neil Wilcox	Partial Assurance	12 th October 2018	Some issues required to be clarified before report can be finalised
Whistleblowing	18/19	Neil Wilcox	Advisory	5 th Jan 2019	With RSM Awaiting for response to query
Governance Sub-Committee Effectiveness	18/19	Neil Wilcox	Reasonable Assurance	25 th April 2019	With RSM awaiting amended draft
Housing Revenue Account	18/19	Neil Wilcox	Partial Assurance	5 th June 2019	

Audit	Audit Plan Year	Audit Sponsor	Assurance Level	Date to be Finalised by	Comments
Council Buy-Back	18/19	Joe Carter	No Assurance	8 th June 2019	
Allotment Charges	19/20	Alan Sinclair	Reasonable Assurance	28 th June 2019	To be finalised in mid August
Slough Centre Nursey	19/20	Cate Duffy	Reasonable Assurance	11 th July 2019	With School to finalise

5.2 Monitoring Management Actions

5.2.1 The Risk and Insurance Officer regularly monitors the progress of the implementation of made following Internal Audit reports. Below is a graph that shows the percentage of High and Medium risk recommendations, from the current and two preceding audit years, that have either been implemented, are in progress, or no action has been taken.



The table below summarises the number for each categorisation of management actions together with analysis by Audit Opinion for all Audit Actions

		Target date not reached	Implemented	In Progress	Not Implemented
Green	15	2	7	0	6
Amber Green	195	17	132	22	24
Red	8	0	2	1	5
Amber Red	112	7	62	36	7
Totals	330	26	203	59	42

- 5.2.2 Attached at Appendix 1 is a list of outstanding Medium actions that are outstanding
- 5.2.3 The percentage of completed actions has reduced slightly to 68% from last quarters 80%
- 5.2.4 On a quarterly basis RSM our Internal Auditors conduct a follow up audit to review progress made by the Council to implement the previously agreed management actions.
- 5.2.5 In Follow Up reviews RSM can offer 1 of 4 possible opinions:
- Good progress
 - Reasonable Progress
 - Little Progress
 - Poor Progress
- 5.2.6 The draft Quarter 1 Follow Up report from RSM however the current indications are that it will show that the Council has made **Reasonable Progress** – this is an improvement on any of the follow-up audits in 2018/19
- 5.2.7 Attached at Appendix 2 is a list of the “High” Recommendation Actions that remain Outstanding past the target date.

Current Position		Previous Audit Committee	
No Action	Partially Complete	No Action	Partially Complete
0	12	0	7

6. **Comments of Other Committees**

There are no comments from other Committees

7. **Conclusion**

Members are requested to note details of the update.

8. **Appendices Attached**

Appendix 1 – Outstanding Medium risk internal Audit actions

Appendix 2 – Details of High Rated Recommendations

9. **Background Papers**

None