

EAST RENFREWSHIRE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD**PERFORMANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE****26 September 2018****Report by Chief Auditor****INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2018/19****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. In line with the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS), a risk based internal audit plan for 2018/19 is detailed below.

BACKGROUND

2. The Public Bodies (Joint Working)(Scotland) Act 2014 requires that the Integrated Joint Board is subject to the audit and account regulations and legislation under Section 106 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. The national Integrated Resources Advisory Group (IRAG) guidance states that “it is the responsibility of the Integration Joint Board to establish adequate and proportionate internal audit arrangements for risk management, governance and control of the delegated resources.” At its meeting of 7 October 2015, the East Renfrewshire HSCP Integration Joint Board appointed the Chief Auditor of East Renfrewshire Council as its Chief Internal Auditor for the IJB. The IRAG guidance clarifies that the operational delivery of services within the Health Board and the Local Authority on behalf of the IJB will be covered by their respective internal audit arrangements.

4. The Internal Audit service is an autonomous unit within the Chief Executive’s Office of East Renfrewshire Council. Independence is achieved through the organisational status of internal audit and the objectivity of internal auditors. For the purposes of providing an annual opinion, reliance will be placed on the work of the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) internal auditors, East Renfrewshire Council internal auditors and any work carried out by other external assessors, for example Audit Scotland and Care Inspectorate.

5. In order to ensure proper coverage and avoid duplication of effort, the internal auditors of the NHSGGC and all the local authorities operating within this Health Board area meet periodically.

6. The East Renfrewshire Council Internal Audit service operates in accordance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS). Internal Audit work is governed by the policies, procedures, rules and regulations established by the Council such as the Contract Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and the Anti Fraud and Bribery Strategy.

PROPOSED AUDIT PLAN FOR 2018/19

7. In total, 20 audit days have been allocated against IJB within the ERC Annual Audit Plan as approved by the Council Audit and Scrutiny Committee on 19 April 2018.

8. Internal audits which are of relevance and interest to the IJB will be carried out in both the Council and the Health Board by the respective internal audit teams and these will be detailed within the relevant organisation's audit plans. Specific to the IJB however, audits have been carried out over the last few years on the integration scheme, performance management arrangements, review of governance arrangements and consultation on compilation of code of governance.

9. In drafting the internal audit plan for 2018/19, we have:

- Consulted with various members of the HSCP senior management team
- Considered the risks affecting the East Renfrewshire Integration Joint Board
- Considered previous audit findings

10. This exercise did not result in identifying any audits which would be of benefit to carry out at the present time specific to the IJB. In consultation and in agreement with the Head of Finance and Resources (Chief Financial Officer), it is therefore proposed to reserve 12 of the planned days to address any future emerging issues which may arise. Examples might be to review revised guidance issued by LASAAC or issues arising from the pending Audit Scotland report titled Health and Social Care Integration which is due to be issued in Autumn 2018.

11. It is proposed that these days are spent as follows:

	Description	Planned days
	Reserve days to address any emerging issues which may arise during the year, days to be used in consultation with the Head of Finance and Resources (Chief Financial Officer)	12
Follow up	Audit the progress against previous internal audit recommendations, undertaking additional testing as required.	3
Planning, reporting and administration	Audit Committee attendance, preparation of reports and miscellaneous time spent liaising with partner organisations and peers.	5
Total		20

RECOMMENDATION

12. The Committee is asked to approve the planned work for 2018/19 and delegate authority to the Head of Finance and Resources (Chief Financial Officer) and the Chief Auditor to agree on how the remaining 12 planned days are used if required.

Further information is available from Michelle Blair, Chief Auditor, telephone 0141 577 3067.

M Blair, Chief Auditor
13 September 2018