

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE

**MONITORING REPORT / ACTION LIST
2023-24**

D. Towns, Vice-Chair of Audit Committee
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Updated: 21 November 2023

**NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
AUDIT COMMITTEE ACTION LIST**

Ref	Date	Report	Action	To be actioned by	Outcome
1.	28.09.22	Caller Report	Regular updates on progress made to address issues raised from the Caller Report including monitoring progress on the Action Plan and the subsequent recommendations of the Challenge Board. For the item to be placed on the Work Programme.	Executive Director for Resources & Transformation (S151) to update when appropriate.	Next update scheduled for November 2023 report.
2.	28.09.22	Strategic Transformation Programme Business Case	27.9.23 Meeting – Action List Amended to: Receive an update and discuss further. Issues to include value for money, workforce, recruitment, and delivery of services.	Executive Director for Resources & Transformation (S151)	Report to be scheduled for January 2024 meeting
3.	26.07.23	International Lessons Learned Review	Report received by the Committee in July 23. Audit Committee will receive a further progress report in six months' time.	Executive Director for Resources & Transformation (S151).	Report scheduled for January 2024 meeting.
4.	26.07.23	International Lessons Learned Review	A query as to the cost of the investigation.	Executive Director for Resources & Transformation (S151).	J. Willis to meet with Cllr Grimshaw after the meeting to discuss.
5.	27.09.23	Member Request	Report on past dismissals of statutory officers.	Head of Internal Audit & Risk Management	
6.	27.09.23	Member Request	Further report on the legality of exit payments.	ED Transformation and Resources	

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				(S151) and Director of Law & Governance (MO)	
7.	27.09.23	Member Request	Report on workforce issues including exit interviews.	Head of Workforce & OD	
8.	27.09.23	Review of External Inspection Reports – Adult Social Care and Children’s Services	A request for a breakdown in inspection judgements between academies and maintained schools.	A. Hartwell, Senior Manager - Performance and Systems Support	Email sent to Cllr Dale 3.10.23 with data.
9.	27.09.23	Review of External Inspection Reports – Adult Social Care and Children’s Services	Future reports to include a longer history of CQC gradings within adult social care settings.	A. Curry, Senior Manager – Commissioning	Officer to include in future reports.

WORK PROGRAMME

ISSUE
29 November 2023
Internal Audit, Risk Management & Corporate Fraud Key Outcomes from Internal Audit Assignments Strategic Audit Plan Monitoring Report Update on Internal Audit work in relation to active group entities – verbal update
Corporate Finance Treasury Management In-year Update Report Governance Review – Update on Continued Progress Statement of Accounts 21/22
External Audit Audit Completion Report – year ended 31 March 2022 verbal update on 2020-21 accounts
Reports previously deferred FPS Local Pension Board Annual Report Risk Management Update – verbal update
31 January 2024
Internal Audit, Risk Management & Corporate Fraud Approach to preparing the Strategic Audit Plan 2024/25 Update on Internal Audit work in relation to active group entities Risk Management Update
Corporate Finance Statement of Accounts 2023/24 - Timetable and Policies

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Changes to the Code of Practice for 2023/24
Northumberland County Council – Consideration of 'Going Concern Status' for the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024
Treasury Management Strategy Statement for the Financial Year 2024/25
International Lessons Learned Review 6-month update
Strategic Transformation Programme Business Case - update

External Audit

Audit Progress Report

Reports from Other Service Areas

Reports previously deferred

RIPA Policy

27 March 2024

Internal Audit, Risk Management & Corporate Fraud

Counter Fraud Update
Risk Management Update Report
Strategic Audit Plan 2024/25
Annual Audit Committee Work Programme
Annual Review of Audit Committee Effectiveness
Update on Internal Audit work in relation to active group entities

Corporate Finance

Group Boundary Review 2023/24
Annual Governance Statement 2023/24

External Audit

Audit Progress Report

Reports from Other Service Areas

Education & Safeguarding Performance – Review of External Inspection Reports

29 May 2024

Internal Audit, Risk Management & Corporate Fraud

Corporate Finance

External Audit

Reports from Other Service Areas

MEETING DATES TO BE CONFIRMED/SCHEDULED

- Regular updates on progress made to address issues raised from the Caller Report including monitoring the Action Plan.
- Examine the Strategic Transformation Programme Business Case
- Monitor any impacts from recent changes within Adult Social Care and wider NHS changes where/when appropriate.

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