

**INTERNAL AUDIT SUMMARY**

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**1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report summarises the outcome of a review and the preferred option for future delivery of internal audit.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The terms of this report are noted.

**3 DETAIL**

- 3.1 The council has committed to a 3 year programme of service reviews. Arising from a challenging financial outlook and ongoing increases in demands and expectations for public services, the council set a target for services to identify options to achieve 20% savings in cost from service reviews. Service reviews also support and provide the opportunity for the council to investigate options for improving the performance, value for money, economy, efficiency and effectiveness of services.

- 3.2 As part of the review a Baseline report was prepared which outlined areas for improvement for internal audit. A Benchmark exercise was also undertaken using 3 benchmarking routes to obtain information; the CIPFA Benchmarking Club for Internal Audit section comparison across the UK; the Director of Finance PIs; and a separate KPMG benchmarking review.

- 3.3 Having assessed internal audit in detail, a range of options was considered during the Stage 1 Options appraisal for each work stream. The options were scored using the approach set out in the Service Review Guidance. Following the Stage 1 appraisal, the highest scoring options as outlined above were taken forward to stage 2 options appraisal. The summary report is attached.

**4. CONCLUSION**

The service review has been completed in a way which ensures compliance with the council's performance management framework, Public Service Improvement Framework (PSIF) and the HM Treasury Green Book. It is focussed on sustainable service delivery which meets the challenges ahead.

Policy – Sets out future direction for Internal Audit.

Legal – None.

Finance – Proposes savings in Internal Audit cost.

Personnel – None.  
Equal Opportunities – None.

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