

Public Sector Internal Audit Standards Action Plan Progress

Attribute Standards	Action	Progress
<p>1130 Impairment to Independence or Objectivity</p> <p>The internal audit activity may provide assurance services where it had previously performed consulting services, provided the nature of the consulting does not impair objectivity and provided individual objectivity is managed when assigning resources to the engagement.</p>	<p>Document in the audit manual how the risk of over-familiarity will be managed and ensure the management of this risk is documented on each audit file.</p>	<p>Partially complete</p> <p>Target date: 31 March 2020</p> <p>This has been achieved – a form has been created and put in Galileo.</p> <p>Audit manual needs to be revised to reflect the recent changes in work practices post Covid-19.</p> <p>Revised target date: 31 July 2020</p>
<p>2040 Policies and Procedures</p> <p>The chief audit executive must establish policies and procedures to guide the internal audit activity.</p>	<p>Review the audit manual and the electronic audit management system (Galileo) to ensure both reflect current working practices and standards.</p>	<p>In progress</p> <p>The audit manual is currently being reviewed.</p> <p>Over the coming year we will be evaluating Galileo to determine whether to continue with this product or source a new product/supplier to maximise our potential in moving to paperless auditing.</p> <p>Original target date: 31 March 2020</p> <p>Revised target date: 31 July 2020</p>

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<p>2050 Coordination</p> <p>The chief audit executive should share information, coordinate activities and consider relying upon the work of other internal and external assurance and consulting service providers to ensure proper coverage and minimise duplication of efforts.</p>	<p>The CAE should have a clear understanding of the scope, objectives and results of the work performed by other providers of assurance and consulting services within the Council.</p> <p>To that end the CAE should develop an approach to assessing other assurance providers, map the work of any other assurance providers against planned activity and where appropriate coordinate and place reliance on the work of those providers through regular meetings.</p>	<p>In progress</p> <p>We have identified two potential external assurance providers during the 20/21 audit planning process and once the scope of their activity is know we will assess whether we can place reliance on their work.</p> <p>Target date: 30 April 2020</p> <p>Revised target date: 31 July 2020</p>
<p>2110 Governance</p> <p>The internal audit activity must assess and make appropriate recommendations to improve the organisation’s governance processes.</p> <p>The internal audit activity must evaluate the design, implementation and effectiveness of the organisation’s ethics-related objectives, programmes and activities.</p> <p>The internal audit activity must assess whether the information technology governance of the organisation supports the organisation’s strategies and objectives.</p>	<p>Undertake an authority wide audit of Corporate Governance.</p> <p>Internal Audit must evaluate the design, implementation and effectiveness of the organisation’s ethics-related objectives, programmes and activities.</p> <p>Internal Audit must review whether the organisation’s information technology governance supports the organisation’s strategies and objectives.</p>	<p>In progress</p> <p>Audits of corporate governance and IT strategy/governance are programmed for 2019/20.</p> <p>Original target date: 31 March 2020.</p> <p>Revised Target: 31 July 2020</p>

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<p>2210 Engagement Objectives</p> <p>Adequate criteria are needed to evaluate governance, risk management and controls. Internal auditors must ascertain the extent to which management and/or the board has established adequate criteria to determine whether objectives and goals have been accomplished. If adequate, internal auditors must use such criteria in their evaluation. If inadequate, internal auditors must identify appropriate evaluation criteria through discussion with management and/or the board.</p> <p>Types of criteria may include internal policies and procedures, laws and regulations imposed by statutory bodies and leading practices (e.g. industry and professional guidance).</p> <p>Consulting engagement objectives must address governance, risk management and control processes to the extent agreed upon with the client.</p> <p>Consulting engagement objectives must be consistent with the organisation's values, strategies and objectives.</p>	<p>Internal auditors must identify appropriate evaluation criteria through discussion with management and/or the board. The criteria should be documented in the engagement plan and audit file.</p> <p>An engagement plan must be issued for every consultancy engagement and the objectives set for consulting engagements must be consistent with the organisation's values, strategies and objectives and address governance, risk management and control processes as agreed with the client.</p> <p>The results of the subsequent engagement must be consistently communicated to senior management and the board.</p>	<p>Partially complete</p> <p>Whilst no consulting engagements have been accepted since November 2019. Going forward all consulting engagements will be agreed and documented through an engagement plan and the results will be communicated to senior management and the board.</p> <p>The audit manual is currently being reviewed to ensure it reflects expectations on auditors to identify appropriate evaluation criteria through discussion with management and/or the board.</p> <p>Original target date: 31 March 2020</p> <p>Revised target date 31 July 2020</p>

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<p>2450 Overall Opinion</p> <p>When an overall opinion is issued, it must take into account the strategies, objectives and risks of the organisation and the expectations of senior management, the board and other stakeholders. The overall opinion must be supported by sufficient, reliable, relevant and useful information.</p>	<p>The annual report and opinion should incorporate all the elements recommended by the standards and application note.</p>	<p>In progress.</p> <p>The format of the 2019/20 will be reviewed and aligned to the recommendations made in the Standards and application note. The report will be presented to the Committee in July 2020.</p> <p>Target date: 31 July 2020.</p>