

Appendix B

Recommendations Tracker for the Interim External Auditor's Annual Report

Ref	Recommendation	Accountable Officer
1.	<p>With three Section 114 notices having been issued in two years, and the Council having made it clear that extraordinary government support is required to return to financial sustainability, it will be important that the Council maintains discipline over its own savings and transformation plans. For savings plans, Internal Audit recommendations for improvement in Star Chamber processes should be implemented as a matter of priority. Plans that are realistic should be approved. For transformation projects, arrangements should be put in place for tracking and challenging outcomes before any further funding is approved.</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>To be further progressed during 2023</p>	Corporate Director of Resources and S151 Officer
2.	<p>The Council should continue to focus on resolving Internal Audit recommendations, including from 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22.</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>To be further progressed during 2023</p>	Corporate Director of Resources and S151 Officer
3.	<p>The Council should continually review arrangements for overseeing standards and codes of conduct. The Ethics Committee, in overseeing standards, should be mindful that the substance of cultural behaviour is as critical as the procedural form.</p>	Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service

	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	
4.	<p>Regular engagement with residents should continue. The Council's goal should be to improve upon a performance where 36% of its respondents described their experience with the Council as poor or very poor.</p> <p>As the housing contracts are re-procured or insourced, they should be sense checked for lessons learnt from engagement with the previous contractor. Working with partners is more effective where there are shared goals, clear roles and responsibilities, performance metrics that are monitored, and a forward-looking view.</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>To be further progressed during 2023</p>	Corporate Director of Housing
5.	<p>The Council should continue the work started to strengthen governance over procurement. This will be particularly important as the Council prepares for new procurement legislation and a transition period of six months in 2023, when two different sets of regulations are expected to be in force at the same time. Internal Audit findings around contract letting, monitoring and management arrangements between 2019-20 and 2021-22 should be actioned at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>To be further progressed during 2023</p>	Corporate Director of Resources and S151 Officer

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