

Essex Fire Authority

Internal Audit Progress Report

Audit, Governance & Review Committee meeting: 22 April 2015

Introduction

The internal audit plan for 2014/15 was approved by the Audit, Governance and Review Committee on the 23 April 2014. This report provides an update on progress against that plan.

We have issued three final reports since the last Committee meeting.

We also have three reviews in progress.

Summary of Progress against the 2014/15 Internal Audit Plan

Assignment Reports considered today are shown in bold	Original Timing	Status	Opinion	Actions Agreed (by priority)		
				High	Medium	Low
Human Resources – Transactional Process (1.14/15)	Q1	Final Report	Amber / Red	2	1	3
Fleet Management (2.14/15)	Q2	Final Report	Green	0	0	0
Communications (3.14/15)	Q2	Final Report	Amber / Green	0	4	2
Risk Management Workshop	Q3/4	October 2014	Delivered			
Fuel Cards (4.14/15)	Q2	Final Report	Amber / Green	1	0	1
Performance Management (5.14/15)	Q2	Final Report	Amber / Green	0	2	2
Risk Maturity	Q3	In progress				
Budgetary Setting & Control (7.14.15)	Q2	Final Report	Green	0	0	2
Business Planning	Q4	In progress				
Key Financial Controls (6.14/15)	Q4	Final Report	Green	0	1	2
Follow up	Q4	In progress				

Other Matters

Key Findings:

The Audit, Governance and Review Committee should note that the assurances given in our audit assignments are included within our Annual Assurance report. In particular the Committee should note that any negative assurance opinions will need to be noted in the annual report and may result in a qualified or negative annual opinion. We have not identified any issues as a result of our work to date that will impact our annual report.

No common weaknesses have been identified within our reports so far for 2014/15.

Planning and Liaison:

Internal Audit were requested by management to amend the original proposed timing of a number of audits due to the industrial action which resulted in delays in the completion of several audits against the originally agreed timescales. However, all reviews are either underway or completed.

We have also met with management to discuss the 2015/15 draft Internal Audit plan and this is a separate agenda item.

Information and Briefings:

We have issued one update electronically since the last meeting.

Emergency Services News Briefing February 2015

- Firefighter fitness standards and assessment Consultation response.
- Fire statistics: Great Britain April 2013 to March 2014.

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