

INTERNAL AUDIT - FINAL CLAIM
WDA/34/14

Recommendation

That:

1. Members note the contents of the report from the Internal Auditor

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Report of the Treasurer

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 The Authority is required to maintain an effective Internal Audit as a part of its statutory governance arrangements. The Authority's Internal Audit is provided by St Helens Council. The Auditor reviews the arrangements at the Authority and reports to Members on any weaknesses and recommends improvements. This report brings to Members attentions the outcome of the latest review.

2. Background

2.1 The Internal Auditor has reported on the final claims for payment under the Authority's:

- Waste Management and Recycling Contract;
- Landfill contracts;
- Hazardous Waste contract;
- FCC interim contract; and
- The GMWDA interim contract

2.2 The purpose of the review is to provide assurance about the accuracy of the final payments made by the Authority in respect of the £54.7M covered by these contracts. The auditor's detailed report is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

3. Review of contracts

3.1 The review considered the arrangements in place for the management of the Waste Management and Recycling Contract operated by Veolia Environmental Services on behalf of the Authority.

3.2 The review also considered the arrangements for managing the suite of Landfill contracts for the disposal of wastes so that the Authority is able to meet its statutory duties.

- 3.3 The Auditor concluded that in their overall opinion high assurance could be taken from the system and the way it was operated and go on to say that this means that:

“all expected controls are in place and being applied consistently and effectively and there is a sound system of control designed to ensure the achievement of the service or system’s business objectives”.

- 3.4 The auditor has confirmed there are no Key Issues arising from this review to bring to the attention of Members.

- 3.5 The auditor has made no recommendations for improvements as a consequence of the review.

4. Risk Implications

- 4.1 There are no new risks arising from the auditor’s review

5. HR Implications

- 5.1 There are no new HR implications

6. Environmental Implications

- 6.1 There are no new environmental implications

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

9. Conclusion

- 9.1 Internal Audit reviews the Authority’s governance arrangements. The recent review confirmed that arrangements were appropriate and there are no Key Issues for Members or recommendations for improvement. Members are asked to note the report.

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The background documents to this report are open to inspection in accordance with Section 100D of The Local Government Act 1972 - Nil.