

Financial Risk Assessment: 8. Internal Audit				Responsible Officer: RFO / Full Council Committee			
Ref No.	Hazard	Risk Assessment			Risk Control Measures		
		Like-lihood	Impact	Rating			
1	Scope of Internal Audit does not include all relevant risks.	1	4	4	<p>The terms of reference for the Internal Audit are agreed by the <b>Corporate Governance</b> Committee.</p> <p>The scope of the audit plan is reviewed annually to ensure it supports the Council's Annual Governance Statement by Council.</p> <p>The scope of audit work takes into account risk management processes and wider internal controls.</p> <p>Terms of reference define audit responsibilities in relation to fraud.</p>		
2	The Internal Auditor is not sufficiently independent, unbiased and objective.	1	4	4	<p>The Internal Auditor has direct access to those charged with governance i.e. Members.</p> <p>Reports are made in their own name to management.</p> <p>Auditor does not have any other role within the Council.</p> <p>The Internal Auditor is not involved with the preparation of management accounts.</p>		
3	The Internal Auditor is unable to carry out the work ethically, with integrity and objectivity.	1	4	4	<p>Internal Audit reports are considered by the Full Council Committee to ensure that the competency of the Internal Auditor meets the Council's requirements.</p> <p>References are obtained when appointing the Internal Auditor.</p>		
4	Relationships impact on an effective audit process.	1	4	4	<p>The Clerk/RFO is consulted on the internal audit plan and on the scope of each audit.</p> <p>Responsibilities for officers and internal audit are defined in relation to internal control, risk management, fraud and corruption matters.</p> <p>The Internal Auditor is not allowed to influence the direction or extent of the review.</p> <p>The responsibilities of Council Members are understood; training of Members is carried out as necessary.</p>		
5	Inadequate or a lack of audit planning and reporting.	1	4	4	<p>The Internal Auditor is instructed to undertake a full internal audit currently with 3-4 visits per year and to submit recommendations for improvement.</p> <p>The annual audit plan properly takes account of all the risks facing the Council and is approved by the Council.</p> <p>Internal audit is reported in accordance with the plan.</p>		
<b>Reviewed by: Karen Slater</b>				<b>Date: 4.3.25</b>			
<b>Town Clerk Approval:</b>				<b>Date: 4.3.25</b>			


