



# Rutland County Council

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## Committee of the Council: Report to Council

<b>Committee</b>	Audit and Risk Committee
<b>Date(s) of Meeting(s)</b>	28 June 2022

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Summary of Discussions</b>
<b>External Audit Progress Update 2021/22</b>	<p>The external audit report and the revised dates for completion of documents was considered.</p> <p>Questions were answered regarding the timeliness of information and that the auditors work largely on annual data not the rolling budget through the year.</p> <p>The Chair sought advice on the guidance regarding Committee involvement in ensuring risks related to climate change are considered. It was agreed as a small authority this is largely a matter of recording the Council activities in this regard and noting action on the risks so as to provide an audit trail. The guidance can be seen here: <a href="https://www.nao.org.uk/report/climate-change-risk-a-good-practice-guide-for-audit-and-risk-assurance-committees/">https://www.nao.org.uk/report/climate-change-risk-a-good-practice-guide-for-audit-and-risk-assurance-committees/</a></p>
<b>Draft Annual Governance Statement</b>	<p>The draft Annual Governance Statement was considered, and several minor amendments were requested, largely relating to correcting small grammatical queries. The statement that RCC works with the VCF (voluntary community and faith) sector was challenged as an overstatement of fact as the term VCF has a technical meaning. A suggestion was supported that the wording should be revised to: “working with a number of voluntary faith and community organisations”.</p>
<b>Annual Internal Audit Report and Opinion 2021/22</b>	<p>The internal audit opinion was considered with an introduction and explanation by the Chief Internal Auditor. The Chair sought reassurance for members on the journey from draft report to final report, and the procedure that would be initiated if senior staff were obstructive in agreeing or responding to a report. The Chief Internal Auditor explained the processes, and that no such issues had arisen but that a formal process does exist if such an incident occurs.</p>
<b>Internal Audit Progress Report 2022/23</b>	<p>The progress report on the internal audit plan was considered. New members in particular were introduced to this annual plan – a question on one item (cybersecurity) was raised and the Chair forwarded the relevant final report to the member.</p>

<b>Actions</b>	<p>The Chair requested that all Member of the Committee and the Chair of Scrutiny would receive a copy of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="632 338 1374 412">1. The current Internal Audit Plan with details of the scope of each item</li><li data-bbox="632 421 1321 495">2. Details of links to final reports that have been completed.</li><li data-bbox="632 504 1161 533">3. A copy of the current risk register.</li></ol>
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