

Committee(s): Ordinary Council	Date: 7 th December 2022
Subject: Chairs Report for Audit and Scrutiny Committee	Wards Affected: All
Committee Chair: Cllr Thomas Heard	
	For Information

Audit & Scrutiny updates since the last Ordinary Council on 2nd November 2022

Internal Audit Plan 2022/23

The report covered the Internal Audit Plan for 2022/23. The report was noted but was before members to approve the Internal Audit Plan for 2022/23. Members approved the Internal Audit Plan 2022/23 and gave Delegated authority to s151 Officer to amend the plan in year as necessary to deliver the contract.

Internal Audit Progress Report 2022/23

The report informed the Audit and Scrutiny Committee of progress made against the 2022/23 internal audit plan. No reports have been finalised since the last Committee.

Risk Management

The report updated members of the Audit & Scrutiny Committee on the status of the Council's 2022/2023 Strategic Risk Register and high-level operational risks. As a result of the current risk review the risk scores have remained the same from the previous review in August. Of the high-level operational risks, one risk score has been increased, and the other risks scores have remained the same.

Scrutiny Work Programme 2022/23

The Committee considered and agreed the 2022/23 Scrutiny work programme as set out in report with any additions agreed by the committee at the meeting.

Brentwood Leisure Trust

At the 24th November 2020 Audit and Scrutiny Committee, Cllr Dr Barrett forwarded a recommendation for the scrutiny work programme to include a review of the historic relationship between Brentwood Borough Council and the Brentwood Leisure Trust (BLT). Subsequently this was agreed at the 26th January 2021 Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Min.670 refers) and added to the scrutiny work programme with the process to be dealt with by way of a cross party working group. A report set out the conclusions and recommendations of the cross-working party working group following a review of all the information available to the group.

The Committee approved the recommendations:

The Council should continue with the positive progress made in making sure that record keeping, and governance of partnership/contractual arrangements are robust and transparent and regular reports are made to the appropriate committee.

Regular update reports of major partnership/contractual arrangements should be included within the A&S Committee annual workplan.