

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

RESOURCES, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE – 4 MARCH 2024

INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT 2023-24

Report by: Antony Harvey. Deputy Head of the Southern Internal Audit Partnership and Chief Internal Auditor to the Authority

1 Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Resources, Audit and Performance Committee with an overview of internal audit activity completed in accordance with the approved audit plan and to provide an overview of the status of 'live' reports.

2 Summary

2.1 Under the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015, the New Forest National Park Authority is responsible for:

- ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of functions and includes arrangements for the management of risk; and
- undertaking an adequate and effective internal audit of its accounting records and of its system of internal control in accordance with the proper practices in relation to internal control.

2.2 In accordance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and the Authority's Internal Audit Charter, the Chief Internal Auditor is required to provide a written status report to the Resources, Audit and Performance Committee, summarising:

'communications on the internal audit activity's performance relative to its plan.'

2.3 **Annex 1** summarises the performance of Internal Audit for 2023-24 to 16 February 2024.

3 Additional Information

3.1 Provision for the delivery of Internal Audit is included within the Authority's Service Level Agreement with New Forest District Council.

4 Recommendation:

That members note the Internal Audit Progress Report for 2023-24 (Annex 1).

Annexes:

Annex 1 – Internal Audit Progress Report 2023-24

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