

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Audit and governance committee</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>Tuesday 8 May 2018</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Capital project management and control internal audit progress report</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Chief finance officer</b>

## **Classification**

Open

## **Decision type**

This is not an executive decision

## **Wards affected**

(All Wards);

## **Purpose and summary**

To update the committee on progress in implementing the recommendations raised in the Internal Auditor's audit findings report regarding project management of the joint customer services hub (Blueschool House) capital project presented in September 2017.

## **Recommendation(s)**

**That:**

- (a) The committee reviews progress of the plans to implement the recommendations raised by SWAP in their audit findings report regarding project management of the joint customer services hub (Blueschool House) capital project.**

## **Alternative options**

1. There are no alternative options; this report ensures the committee is fully briefed on progress on the recommendations raised by the internal auditors.

## **Key considerations**

2. The changes in the financial system have been implemented from the start of the new financial year, the no purchase order no payment process changes were implemented from the start of the new financial year, all orders raised in the system need the appropriate budget to be loaded into the financial system. Invoices submitted by suppliers that do not quote an official order number are being automatically returned to suppliers.
3. The Capital Strategy Working Group is reviewing a number of amendments to the suite of templates for the following:
  - Overarching project reports;
  - Feasibility phase business case;
  - full business case;
  - financial modelling templates to support the above;
4. Attached at appendix 1 is the Corporate Peer Challenge feedback, this has been published on the Council's website and cabinet is scheduled to consider the findings and agree how those findings will be used to inform improvement plans at its meeting of 28 June 2018.
5. SWAP have scheduled in their work program appropriate work to be carried out to enable them to review the changes made report to the committee in September

## **Community impact**

6. To ensure clear and transparent processes are in place to govern how resources of the council are effectively managed supports the council's corporate plan objective to manage finances effectively and to demonstrate one of the council's values, namely to be open, transparent and accountable.

## **Equality duty**

7. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 8. The public sector equality duty ( specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. As this is a decision on back office functions we do not believe that it will have an impact on our equality duty.

## **Resource implications**

- 9. There are no resource implications arising directly as a result of the recommendations in the SWAP report. However the recommendations reflect best practice for governance and project management of major projects. Adopting these measures and ensuring best practice is adhered to at all times will ensure that the council achieves best value for its projects.

## **Legal implications**

- 10. There are no legal implications arising directly as a result of this update.

## **Risk management**

- 11. The report does not result in new additional risks.

## **Consultees**

- 12. None

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Corporate Peer Challenge feedback

## **Background papers**

None.