

INTERNAL AUDIT PUBLIC SECTOR INTERNAL AUDIT
STANDARDS - IMPROVEMENT PLAN

MEETING: BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL – AUDIT
COMMITTEE

DATE: 24TH SEPTEMBER 2013

REPORT BY: INTERIM HEAD OF INTERNAL AUDIT
CONSORTIUM

FOR PUBLICATION

**BACKGROUND PAPERS: Public Sector Internal Audit
Standards**

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 To report to Members the results of an internal audit self assessment that has been undertaken to review compliance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

2 Recommendations

2.1 That the results of the self assessment and resultant improvement plan be noted.

2.2 That progress against the improvement plan is reported back to this Committee as part of the internal audit annual report for 2013/14.

3 Background

3.1 The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) which took effect from the 1 April 2013 require that the Head of Internal Audit develop and maintain a quality assurance and improvement programme to enable the internal audit activity to be assessed against the PSIAS. CIPFA recommend that

in order to undertake a self assessment the checklist for assessing conformance included within the application note to the PSIAS be used.

4 The Improvement Plan

- 4.1 The checklist recommended for undertaking a self assessment against the PSIAS has been completed and is held at Appendix A.
- 4.2 The checklist has three columns indicating compliance with the PSIAS, partial compliance or non compliance. Where it is deemed there is only partial or non compliance the relevant standard has been extracted and placed in to the improvement plan held at Appendix B.
- 4.3 In respect of an external assessment of internal audit, the requirement is for this to be undertaken within 5 years of the PSIAS being introduced. It is felt that this exercise may be best undertaken in year 3 or 4 in order that it can be considered in the light of experience of other authorities who commission this work. The approach will be discussed with the Director of Corporate Resources and the Audit Committee nearer the time.
- 4.4 Whilst a number of improvements have been identified it is considered that the exercise has demonstrated that in the main the Internal Audit Consortium is compliant with the PSIAS.

5 Considerations

- 5.1 Risk Management – The Improvement Plan will ensure that the Internal Audit Consortium continues to provide a quality service in line with the PSIAS.
- 5.2 Financial – The implementation of the improvement plan can be met from the Internal Audit Consortium's existing budget.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 That the results of the self assessment and resultant improvement plan be noted.

6.2 That progress against the improvement plan is reported back to this Committee as part of the internal audit annual report for 2013/14.

7.0 Reason for Recommendations

7.1 To comply with the requirements of the PSIAS.

**Jenny Williams
Interim Head of Internal Audit
Consortium**