
Report To:	Audit Committee	Date:	18 October 2022
Report By:	Interim Director Finance and Corporate Governance	Report No:	AC/13/22/AP/APr
Contact Officer:	Andi Priestman	Contact No:	01475 712251
Subject:	EXTERNAL AUDIT ACTION PLANS - CURRENT ACTIONS		

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting

1.2 The purpose of this report is to advise members of the status of current actions from External Audit Action Plans at 31 August 2022.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that members note the progress to date in relation to the implementation of external audit actions.

Alan Puckrin
Interim Director
Finance and Corporate Governance

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 External Audit regularly report findings and action plans to relevant Council Officers and the Audit Committee as part of their annual audit plan.
- 3.2 A follow up process is in place to allow follow up of current external audit actions to be co-ordinated and updated by Internal Audit on a monthly basis with regular reporting to CMT and the Audit Committee.
- 3.3 The Chief Internal Auditor co-ordinates follow up reporting on current actions arising from External Audit Action Plans on a monthly basis with regular reporting to CMT and the Audit Committee.
- 3.4 There were 4 actions due for completion by 31 August 2022 which reported as completed by management. In addition, there was one action reported as completed ahead of its deadline.
- 3.5 There is one current external audit action being progressed by officers. This is set out in the status report at Appendix 1.

4.0 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The Audit Committee is asked to note the progress to date in relation to the implementation of external audit actions

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation is agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial		X	
Legal/Risk	X		
Human Resources		X	
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)	X		
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty		X	
Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		X	
Environmental & Sustainability		X	
Data Protection		X	

5.2 Legal/Risk

There is a risk that failure to implement agreed audit actions in a timely manner could result in an inability to provide a reasonable level of assurance over the Council's system of internal control to those charged with governance.

5.3 Strategic

This report relates to strong corporate governance.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 Relevant Officers were asked to provide updates to the report as appropriate.

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 External Audit reports. Copies available from Andi Priestman, Chief Internal Auditor.

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL INTERNAL AUDIT
REPORT TO AUDIT COMMITTEE ON
STATUS OF EXTERNAL AUDIT ACTION PLAN POINTS
AT 31 AUGUST 2022

Summary: Section 1 Summary of Management Actions due for completion by 31/08/2022

There were 4 actions due for completion by 31 August 2022 which have been reported as completed by management.

In addition, there was one action with a completion date of 28 February 2023 which has been reported as completed by management.

Section 2 Summary of Current Management Actions Plans at 31/08/2022

At 31 August 2022 there were no audit reports delayed due to management not finalising the action plan within agreed timescales.

Section 3 Current Management Actions at 31/08/2022

At 31 August 2022 there was 1 current audit action point.

Section 4 Analysis of Missed Deadlines

At 31 August 2022 there was one audit action point where the agreed deadline has been missed.

**INVERCLYDE COUNCIL INTERNAL AUDIT
REPORT TO AUDIT COMMITTEE ON
STATUS OF EXTERNAL AUDIT ACTION PLAN POINTS**

SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT ACTION PLANS DUE FOR COMPLETION BY 31.08.2022

SECTION 1

Area	No. of Actions Due	No. of Actions Completed	Deadline missed Revised date set*	Deadline missed Revised date to be set*	No action proposed
Chief Executive	0				
Environment, Regeneration and Resources	4				
Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)	0				
Education and Communities	0				
Total	4				

* These actions are included in the Analysis of Missed Deadlines – Section 4

2020/2021 Annual Audit Report (November 2021)	
Action	Status
Detailed Review of Fixed Asset Register A replacement fixed asset register will be developed for use from the 2021/22 Accounts onwards.	Complete
Non-current Asset Valuations The approach of 5 yearly valuations will be reviewed and either a rolling review or indexation will be implemented from the 2021/22 Accounts	Complete - Opted to apply indexation approach from 2021/22
Management Commentary The previously agreed action will be implemented for the 2021/22 Accounts.	Complete
Estimation and Judgement Disclosure The requirements of the Good Practice Note will be included within the 2021//22 Accounts.	Complete

In addition, there was one action with a completion date of February 2023 which has been reported as completed by management.

2020/2021 Annual Audit Report (November 2021)	
Action	Status
Medium to Long Term Savings The high level savings options largely developed by officers will be refined and discussed with Members as part of the 2023/24 Budget post the May 2022 elections.	Complete – presented to P&R on 20/09/2022.

**INVERCLYDE COUNCIL INTERNAL AUDIT
REPORT TO AUDIT COMMITTEE ON
STATUS OF EXTERNAL AUDIT ACTION PLAN POINTS**

SUMMARY OF CURRENT MANAGEMENT ACTIONS AS AT 31.08.2022

SECTION 2

CURRENT ACTIONS BY DIRECTORATE

Environment, Regeneration and Resources	
Due for completion April 2026	1
Total Actions	1
Total current actions:	1

**INVERCLYDE COUNCIL INTERNAL AUDIT
REPORT TO AUDIT COMMITTEE ON
STATUS OF EXTERNAL AUDIT ACTION PLAN POINTS
CURRENT MANAGEMENT ACTIONS AS AT 31.08.2022**

SECTION 3

Environment, Regeneration and Resources

Action	Owner	Expected Date
2020/2021 Annual Audit Report (November 2021)		
Local Development Plan The draft LDP was submitted for consultation In August 2021 and responses are now being considered before submission to Scottish Ministers for consideration. This is in line with the agreed timescale with adoption not likely to be before April 2022.	Interim Director, Environment and Economic Recovery	30.04.2026*

**INVERCLYDE COUNCIL INTERNAL AUDIT
REPORT TO AUDIT COMMITTEE ON
STATUS OF EXTERNAL AUDIT ACTION PLAN POINTS
ANALYSIS OF MISSED DEADLINES**

SECTION 4

Report	Action	Original Date	Revised Date	Management Comments
2020/2021 Annual Audit Report (November 2021)	<p>Local Development Plan The draft LDP was submitted for consultation In August 2021 and responses are now being considered before submission to Scottish Ministers for consideration. This is in line with the agreed timescale with adoption not likely to be before April 2022.</p>	30.04.22	30.04.26	This has been exacerbated by the delay in the outcome decision by the Scottish Ministers in relation to the West of Quarry Drive application until after the local government elections. This resulted in insufficient time to modify and continue preparation of the proposed plan, within the designated period, under the Planning (Scotland) Act 2006 A management decision has therefore been taken that work will start afresh based on the new guidance under the 2019 Planning (Scotland) Act.