

Report To:	Corporate Governance Committee
Date of Meeting:	29 November 2017
Lead Member / Officer:	Lisa Lovegrove – Chief Internal Auditor
Report Author:	Lisa Lovegrove – Chief Internal Auditor
Title:	Internal Audit Self-Assessment against the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS)

1. What is the report about?

This report provides the result of the internal audit self-assessment against the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards requires the Chief Internal Auditor to develop and maintain a quality assurance and improvement programme to evaluate conformance with the Standards.

A quality assurance and improvement programme is designed to enable an evaluation of the internal audit activity's conformance with the Standards and an evaluation of whether internal auditors apply the Code of Ethics. The programme also assesses the efficiency and effectiveness of the internal audit activity and identifies opportunities for improvement. The Committee has a key role in the quality assurance and improvement program to provide oversight.

3. What are the Recommendations?

The Committee to comment on the content of the report and approve the Quality Assurance & Improvement Action Plan (Appendix 1).

4. Report details

The Head of Internal Audit carried out a self-assessment of the Internal Audit Service against the PSIAS in 2014/2015. This was reviewed and updated to reflect the current arrangements. The result was positive overall and demonstrates that the Internal Audit Services 'generally conforms' to a majority of the standards. It highlighted a few areas of 'partial conformance' with the standards which are included in the Quality Assurance & Improvement Action Plan in Appendix 1.

In accordance with the standards, external assessments must be completed at least once every five years by a qualified, independent assessor or assessment team from outside the organisation. The Welsh Chief Auditor's Group has collaborated to adopt a peer review approach, whereby the self-assessment will be validated by an external assessor. The external assessment of Denbighshire Council Council's Internal Audit Service will be carried out by the chief audit executive of Gwynedd County Council in the spring 2018.

5. **How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**
Not applicable - there is no decision required with this report.
6. **What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**
Not applicable - there is no decision required with this report.
7. **What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report**
Not applicable - there is no decision required with this report.
8. **What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**
Not applicable - there is no decision required with this report.
9. **Chief Finance Officer Statement**
Not applicable - there is no decision required with this report.
10. **What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**
Not applicable - there is no decision required with this report.
11. **Power to make the Decision**
Not applicable - there is no decision required with this report.