

7.1 STRATEGIC INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2019/20 TO 2021/22 (D20-26221)

Report from Audit & Risk Committee

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the Strategic Internal Audit Plan for 2019/20 to 2021/22.

BACKGROUND

Crowe commenced as Council's new Internal Audit service provider from 1 July 2019. Under the contract, they have prepared a Strategic Internal Audit Plan (the Plan) for the three years (2019/20 – 2021/22) (refer attached).

The Plan was developed in consultation with:

- the Executive Leadership Team (ELT);
- Managers across the organisation; and
- Audit & Risk Committee members.

The Plan is based on 1,000 hours of internal audit work for a three-year term as provided under the contract. Additional hours have been approved by Council for the development of assurance mapping and ad-hoc reviews including audits relating to specific issues and/or review of the tender and evaluation of major projects.

Council's Audit & Risk Committee reviewed and endorsed the Plan at its meeting on 3 December 2019, subject to addressing Committee feedback, in accordance with the Audit & Risk Committee Charter, and is recommending the Plan to Council for approval as required under the Charter.

DISCUSSION

The Plan outlines the focus of internal audit activity for the next 3 years and provides a high-level scope for the planned 2019/20 reviews.

In developing the Plan, Crowe has taken into account the Assurance Mapping exercise undertaken on Council's Strategic Risks and Council Plan directions, past internal audits at Monash, known local government industry risks, and future Victorian Auditor General Office Performance audits.

The Plan contains a blend of core reviews to provide assurance over Council's internal control systems and processes, and reviews of a more strategic nature to measure Council's process improvements, sustainability and strategy direction.

CONCLUSION

Council's Audit & Risk Committee, at its meeting on Tuesday 3 December 2019, considered the Strategic Internal Audit Plan 2019/20 to 2021/22 and recommends that Council approves the Plan for implementation.