

# LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY Audit Committee – July 2025 Forvis Mazars Internal Audit Progress Report

Date Prepared: June 2025



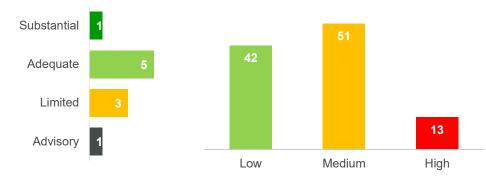
# 1. Snapshot of Internal Audit Activity

Below is a snapshot of the current position of the delivery of the 2024/25 Internal Audit Plan.



23% Allocated Planning ■ ToR Issued ■ Fieldwork **RAG** status of delivery On Track of plan to timetable Note the progress being reported and consider final reports included separately in the paper pack. **Key updates Audit Committee** decision needed

## Assurance opinions in reporting period Audit recommendations in reporting period



The fieldwork for all work included in the 2024/25 Plan has been completed by 31 March 2025.

The responses to the draft report for Management, Monitoring and Collection of Income, and Sickness Management are overdue from management.

We continue to meet with the Head of Internal Audit and Deputy Head of Internal Audit on a biweekly and monthly basis, with the last meeting held on 27 May 2025.

An annual meeting between Forvis Mazars and the Head and Deputy Head of Audit and Risk took place in May 2025 to discuss the 2024/25 audit year, good practice, lessons learnt, and to discuss the 2025/26 Plan.

The 2025/26 Plan has been approved, and fieldwork is underway for a number of audits.

We have undertaken a follow up of one school from the 2024/25 Plan which received a Limited assurance. Details of these can be found in Section 2.

An overview of the Internal Audit Plan can be found in Section 3.



# 2. Overview of Follow up activity

Between February 2024 and May 2025, we followed up on the school that received a 'Limited' assurance in the 2024/25 audit plan. The outcomes of our follow up are tabled below.

School	Total recommendations raised	High	Medium	Low	No Evidence Received	Implemented	Overdue
Belmont Junior	15	2	6	7	9	4	2
Totals	15	2	6	7	6	7	2



Since our last update, we have issued our final report relating to our review of the **Implementation of Panacea** from the 2024/25 Plan. A summary of our most significant findings and the root cause(s) of issues is included below.

Audit Objective: To assess whether the implementation of Panacea Project has effective project management controls in place to oversee delivery.



## **Summary of findings**

#### **Examples of good practice**

✓ Risks and issues were reviewed during daily Stand-Up meetings, with updates made to the Risk and Issues Log on Monday.com; any risks requiring escalation were flagged for senior visibility, and further updates were made after Project Board meetings if necessary.

#### **Highest Priority Findings**

- · Terms of Reference were not in place and records of attendance and actions were not monitored for key governance body meetings.
- Proiect.
- There was a lack of performance-based metrics for third-party
- · Project budget monitoring was overseen outside of the project team.

#### **Key root causes**

- Management had not considered the need for recording attendees of group meetings or assigning target completion dates and owners to actions.
- Change control procedures were not in place over the Lack of alignment and engagement in updating Digital PMO template documents and change control processes, exacerbated by an organisational restructure and the cessation of cross-business meetings.
  - Challenges and delays with contract approval process.
  - Budget monitoring was overseen outside of the Project Team and not supported with a formal communication line.

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Since our last update, we have issued our final report relating to our review of the **Leisure Services Insourcing** from the 2024/25 Plan. A summary of our most significant findings and the root cause(s) of issues is included below.

Audit Objective: To review the key systems and controls in relation to the insourcing of the remaining three leisure centres.

#### Audit rationale Why the Audit is in your 2024/25 Plan Your Highest Risk Your Strategic / Tactical Objective Significant, high-profile project requiring input from across the · Problematic negotiations with Fusion with risk to resourcing Improve resident experience of leisure services and work with communities to develop and broaden Council's leisure and Council. wellbeing service offer. Long lead times for networks/switches. · Fusion could transfer staff to the Haringey contract. **Summary of our opinion Limited Assurance Priority 1 (High)** 3 Actions agreed by you 100% See Appendix A1 for definitions Priority 2 (Medium) 2 **Priority 1 completion** 100% Priority 3 (Low) Overall completion 31 March 2025

### **Summary of findings**

#### **Examples of good practice**

- ✓ Regular and frequent meetings (Leisure Management Board, Insourcing Mobilisation Group and Workstream Monitoring) to discuss project progress.
- Detailed log of actions recorded, monitored and updated in the Haringey - Fusion Action Tracker.

#### **Highest Priority Findings**

- Post go-live actions and their governance has not been sufficiently planned.
- Workstream monitoring spreadsheets have not been fully completed.
- Ineffective reporting on/ preparations for the target operating model resource management

#### **Key root causes**

- Tasks scheduled for post-go live have been noted in the Insourcing Plan, however operational details of their delivery have not yet been agreed.
- Expectations around the level of information completeness was not enforced in Workstream Monitoring spreadsheets.
- Inability to recruit a HR workstream lead to effectively report on risks and progress.

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Since our last update, we have issued our final report relating to our review of **Scheme of Delegation** from the 2024/25 Plan. A summary of our most significant findings and the root cause(s) of issues is included below.

Audit Objective: Assess the design and effectiveness of the control framework for managing financial scheme of delegation.

	Audit rationale						
Why the Audit is in your 2024/25 Plan  Concerns around the Scheme of Delegation (SoD) not being up to date, and it is an area which has not been subject to a review recently.	Your Strategic Risk Inappropriate or fraudulent financial transactions are approved.	Your Strategic / Tactical Objective  To ensure the Council's monies are spent appropriately and in line with the defined Financial Regulations.					
Summary of our opinion							
Substantial Assurance See Appendix A1 for definitions  X	Priority 1 (High) - Priority 2 (Medium) - Priority 3 (Low) 2  Summary of findings	Actions agreed by you  Priority 1 completion  N/A  Overall completion  May 2025					
Examples of good practice  ✓ All financial transactions were approved in line with the SoD for three of the Services sampled that were subject to examination  ✓ Delegated decisions are evidenced and publicised on the Council website in accordance with the Constitution	Highest Priority Findings  Intranet and SAP SoDs do not align  Officer Scheme of Delegation does not contain responsible officer for monitoring SoD	Key root causes     Batch payments and payments relating to multiple cost centres are difficult to track					



Since our last update, we have issued our final report relating to our review of the **Community Reablement Services** from the 2024/25 Plan. A summary of our most significant findings and the root cause(s) of issues is included below.

Audit Objective: Assess the design and effectiveness of the control framework for managing the Community Reablement Services (CRS).

We ere unable to review the care notes for our sample of ten CRS cases as they were stored manually in an off-site location. Therefore, we were unable to assess whether the care delivered was in line with the agreed care plan.

#### **Audit rationale** Why the Audit is in your 2024/25 Plan Your Strategic Risk To ascertain whether appropriate controls are in place to Residents are not supported appropriately through the reablement function which places financial restrains on other areas such as manage the reablement function. residential placements and care. **Summary of our opinion** Priority 1 (High) Actions agreed by you 100% **Adequate Assurance** See Appendix A1 for definitions Priority 2 (Medium) 3 **Priority 1 completion** N/A Overall completion Priority 3 (Low) 30 April 2025 **Summary of findings Examples of good practice Highest Priority Findings** Key root causes √ The Council's website contained information and guidance on · Staff training was incomplete staff and disciplinary action was The Team Lead does not have SAP access and therefore how to submit a CRS referral and who to contact not taken there is no automated way for the Team Leader to identify incomplete training ✓ Approval from the Panel of Service Managers was provided · Care notes were stored manually in an off-site location, and for five cases sampled where extension or a referral of care there are not quality assurance mechanisms in place · The disciplinary policy was not known widely was required · There was no method to document care notes digitally ✓ Automated daily service management performance data was pulled from Liquid Logic on a live Dashboard and shared with relevant stakeholders during the Hospital and Reablement Call over Report Meetings

Since our last update, we have issued our final report relating to our review of IT Change and Problem Management from the 2024/25 Plan. A summary of our most significant findings and the root cause(s) of issues is included below.

Audit Objective: Assess the design and operating effectiveness of control framework for information technology (IT) change and problem management through the use of Halo Service Desk System

#### **Audit rationale** Why the Audit is in your 2024/25 Plan Your Strategic Risk Your Strategic / Tactical Objective Previously audited area with "Limited Assurance" opinion issued If the system does not perform as expected or if there are Develop a Digital Strategy to outline the principles and guidelines and the introduction of Halo Service Desk System which has unforeseen issues, it could disrupt and impact the effectiveness governing the use of digital technologies been used as a catalyst to help re-design this business process. of the change and problem management. (Source: Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2026) **Summary of our opinion Priority 1 (High)** Actions agreed by you **Adequate Assurance** 100% See Appendix A1 for definitions Priority 2 (Medium) 2 **Priority 1 completion** N/A Priority 3 (Low) 2 Overall completion N/A **Summary of findings** Examples of good practice

- ✓ Different environments were set up for each phase, i.e., development, testing and production.
- ✓ The HALO system was used to manage IT changes and problem management, ensuring streamlined processes and effective resolution tracking without manual intervention.

#### **Highest Priority Findings**

- · Incomplete IT change management policy and process documentation.
- · Gaps in incident management process and ticket handling.

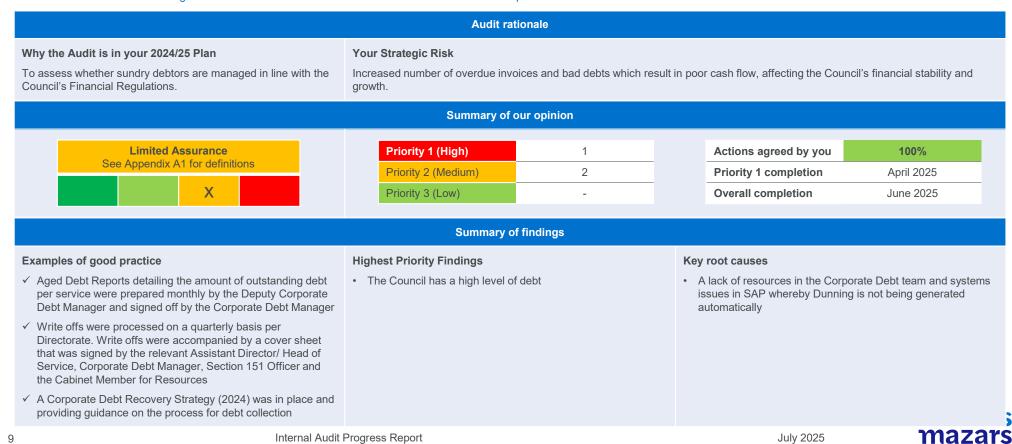
#### **Key root causes**

- · Oversight in maintaining comprehensive documentation can occur due to inadequate reviews on the existing policies and procedures.
- Configuration issue in HALO system cause incorrect labelling of incident priority.
- · Lack of structured workflow for reviewing and approving Management Information (MI) for closure.



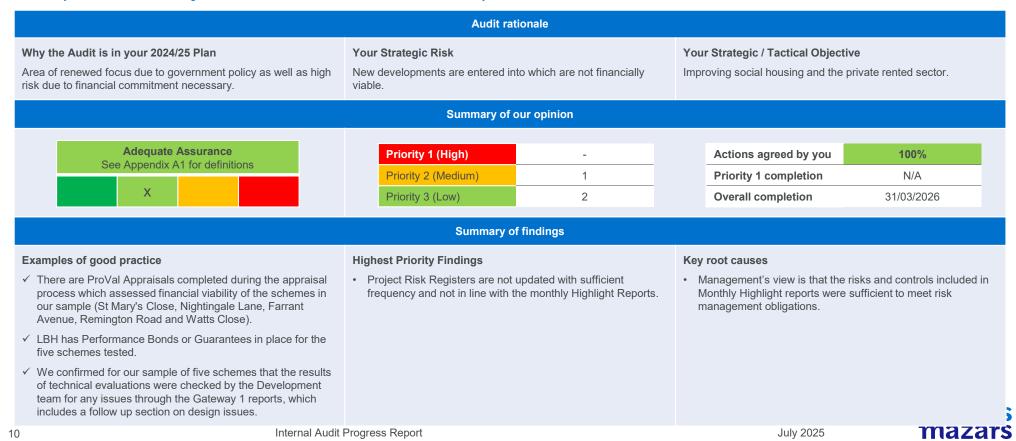
Since our last update, we have issued our final report relating to our review of **Accounts Receivable (Sundry Debtors)** from the 2024/25 Plan. A summary of our most significant findings and the root cause(s) of issues is included below.

Audit Objective: Assess the design and effectiveness of the control framework for Accounts Receivables (Sundry Debtors). This was last assessed in January 2024 providing an Adequate opinion with three P2 and one P3 issues being raised. The recommendations from the last internal audit had not implemented when assessed.



Since our last update, we have issued our final report relating to our review of **Delivery of New Council Homes** from the 2024/25 Plan. A summary of our most significant findings and the root cause(s) of issues is included below.

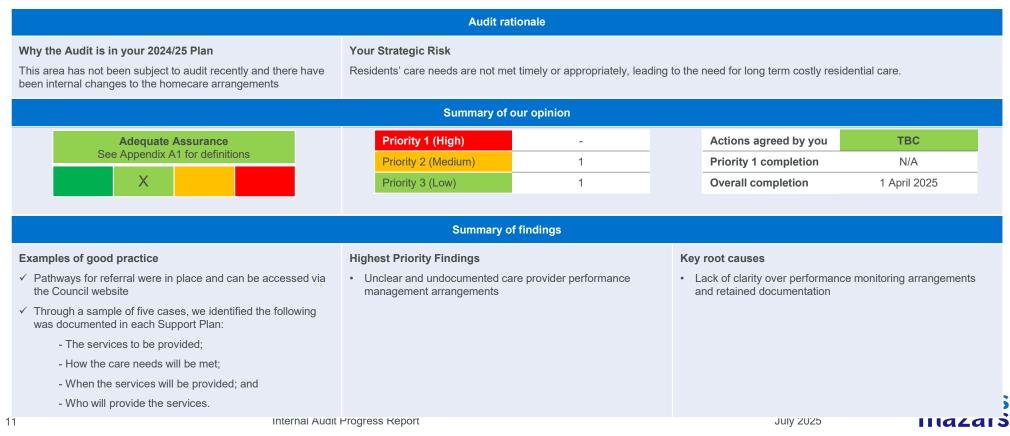
Audit Objective: To review the design and effectiveness of the control framework for the Delivery of New Council Homes.



Since our last update, we have issued our final report relating to our review of **Homecare Services** from the 2024/25 Plan. A summary of our most significant findings and the root cause(s) of issues is included below.

Audit Objective: Assess the design and effectiveness of the control framework for managing Homecare Services.

The audit has not provided assurance over the process to tender for and onboard care providers. We also did not review the debt management processes for outstanding contributions as this was included as part of the 2024/25 Financial Assessment audit.



Since our last update, we have issued our final report relating to our review of **Recycling** from the 2024/25 Plan. A summary of our most significant findings and the root cause(s) of issues is included below.

Audit Objective: Assess the design and effectiveness of the control framework for managing recycling within London Borough of Haringey.

	Audit rationale	
Why the Audit is in your 2024/25 Plan  To review effectiveness of monitoring the outsourced recycling function.	Your Strategic / Tactical Objective A greener and low carbon Haringey.	
	Summary of our opinion	
Adequate Assurance See Appendix A1 for definitions	Priority 1 (High) - Priority 2 (Medium) 1 Priority 3 (Low) 2	Actions agreed by you  Priority 1 completion  N/A  Overall completion  April 2027
	Summary of findings	
Examples of good practice	Highest Priority Findings	Key root causes
<ul> <li>Monthly liaison meetings took place between management and Veolia, the Contractor.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reliance on performance data provided by contractor (Veolia).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reliance on performance data provided by contractor (Veolia).</li> </ul>
✓ Website included recycling guidance for residents i.e., information on how to recycle different materials, reporting feedback and offering suggestions.		
<ul> <li>Outreach to encourage recycling in specific communities such as collections arranged for the Jewish community over Passover and engagement with community groups such as Tottenham Voices and the Great British Spring Clean.</li> </ul>		
✓ The two recommendations raised in the 2021/22 Performance Indicators – Veolia internal audit were followed up and we confirmed they have been implemented.		

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Review	Audit Sponsor	Status	Start Date	Date Finalised	Audit Committee	Assurance Level	Total	High	Medium	Low
Arrangements for LADO	Director of Children's Services	Final Report	June 2024	October 2024	December 2024	Substantial	2	-	-	2
Management of FOIs	Director of Culture, Strategy and Engagement	Final Report	June 2024	August 2024	September 2024	Adequate	5	-	2	3
Financial Assessment of Clients	Director of Adults, Health & Communities	Final Report	June 2024	December 2024	March 2025	Limited	12	3	6	3
Implementation of Panacea	Director of Finance	Final Report	June 2024	April 2025	July 2025	Limited	7	-	4	3
Governance over Delivery of Savings (x1)	Director of Finance	Final Report	July 2024	September 2024	December 2024	Limited	4	-	3	1
Children Provider Payments	Director of Children's Services	Final Report (additional work requested)	July 2024 / December 2024	October 2024 / February 2025	March 2025	Limited	5	-	3	2
Leisure Services Insourcing (pre-implementation)	Director of Environment and Resident Experience	Final Report	July 2024	February 2025	July 2025	Limited	6	3	2	1
Management of Staff Performance	Chief People Officer	Final Report	July 2024	September 2024	December 2024	Limited	5	3	1	1
Scheme of Delegation	Director of Finance	Final Report	August 2024	May 2025	July 2025	Substantial	2	-	-	2
New Operating Model - the Procurement Act	Director of Finance	Final Report	August 2024	October 2024	December 2024	Limited	3	-	3	-
Birchtree Landlords Fact Finding	Director of Environment and Resident Experience	Final Report	August 2024	September 2024	December 2024	N/A	-	-	-	-



Review	Audit Sponsor	Status	Start Date	Date Finalised	Audit Committee	Assurance Level	Total	High	Medium	Low
Management, Monitoring and Collection of Income in Council	Director of Finance	Draft Report	August 2024							
Birchtree	Director of Culture, Strategy and Engagement	Draft Report	August 2024							
Lettings Fact Finding	Director of Placemaking and Housing	Final Report	August 2024	May 2025	July 2025	N/A	-	-	-	-
Planning	Director of Placemaking and Housing	Final Report	September 2024	October 2024	December 2024	Adequate	4	-	1	3
Corporate Performance and Intelligence and Change Portfolio	Director of Culture, Strategy and Engagement	Final Report	September 2024	January 2025	March 2025	Limited	8	-	4	4
Management over Gifts and Hospitality	Chief People Officer	Final Report	September 2024	November 2024	March 2025	Limited	6	-	5	1
Treasury Management	Director of Finance	Final Report	October 2024	February 2025	March 2025	Adequate	3	-	1	2
Management of Council Tax Reduction Scheme	Director of Environment and Resident Experience	Final Report	October 2024	January 2025	March 2025	Adequate	2	-	1	1
Review and Management of Off Contract spend	Director of Finance	Final Report	October 2024	February 2025	March 2025	Limited	6	3	3	-
Future Design of Waste Management Services	Director of Environment and Resident Experience	Final Report	November 2024	January 2025	March 2025	Substantial	2	-	-	2
Planned Maintenance - Kenneth Robbins and Stellar House	Director of Placemaking and Housing	Final Report	November 2024	April 2025	July 2025	Substantial	1	-	-	1



Review	Audit Sponsor	Status	Start Date	Date Finalised	Audit Committee	Assurance Level	Total	High	Medium	Low
Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards	Director of Adult Social Services	Final Report	November 2024	February 2025	March 2025	Adequate	3	-	1	2
Management of Green Haringey	Director of Environment and Resident Experience	Draft Report	November 2024							
Cyber Governance and Risk Management	Director of Culture, Strategy and Engagement	Draft Report	November 2024							
Reablement	Director of Adult Social Services	Final Report	December 2024	February 2025	July 2025	Adequate	4	-	3	1
Pensions Investment Management	Director of Finance	Final Report	December 2024	February 2025	March 2025	Adequate	1	-	1	-
Delivery of New Council Homes	Director of Placemaking and Housing	Final Report	January 2025	April 2025	July 2025	Adequate	3	-	1	2
Homecare Services	Director of Adult Social Services	Final Report	January 2025	March 2025	July 2025	Adequate	2	-	1	1
Accounts Receivable (Sundry Debtors)	Director of Finance	Final Report	January 2025	March 2025	July 2025	Limited	3	1	2	-
Arrangements for Managing Contracts within Housing Services (Letting of Contract, Use of Waivers, Novation etc)	Director of Placemaking and Housing	Draft Report	January 2025							



Review	Audit Sponsor	Status	Start Date	Date Finalised	Audit Committee	Assurance Level	Total	High	Medium	Low
Housing Repairs - Responsive	Director of Placemaking and Housing	Draft Report	January 2025							
Recycling	Director of Environment and Resident Experience	Final Report	February 2025	May 2025	July 2025	Adequate	3	-	1	2
IT Change and Problem Management	Director of Culture, Strategy and Engagement	Final Report	February 2025	May 2025	July 2025	Moderate	4	-	2	2
Regulatory and Enforcement Services	Director of Environment and Resident Experience	Draft Report	March 2025							
Sickness Management	Chief People Officer	Draft Report	March 2025							
Noel Park Pods Fact Finding	Head of Audit and Risk Management	Draft Report	May 2025		-					



## Contact

## **Forvis Mazars**

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#### Statement of Responsibility

We take responsibility to London Borough of Haringey for this report which is prepared on the basis of the limitations set out below.

The responsibility for designing and maintaining a sound system of internal control and the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities rests with management, with internal audit providing a service to management to enable them to achieve this objective. Specifically, we assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal control arrangements implemented by management and perform sample testing on those controls in the period under review with a view to providing an opinion on the extent to which risks in this area are managed.

We plan our work in order to ensure that we have a reasonable expectation of detecting significant control weaknesses. However, our procedures alone should not be relied upon to identify all strengths and weaknesses in internal controls, nor relied upon to identify any circumstances of fraud or irregularity. Even sound systems of internal control can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance and may not be proof against collusive fraud.

The matters raised in this report are only those which came to our attention during the course of our work and are not necessarily a comprehensive statement of all the weaknesses that exist or all improvements that might be made. Recommendations for improvements should be assessed by you for their full impact before they are implemented. The performance of our work is not and should not be taken as a substitute for management's responsibilities for the application of sound management practices.

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