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Internal Audit Annual Assurance Opinion (2022/23)

Report summary:

The Internal Audit function plays a central role in corporate governance by providing assurance to the Audit and Governance Committee, looking over financial controls and checking on the probity of the organisation.

The 2022-23 Annual Audit Plan provided independent and objective assurance on EDDC Internal Control Environment. This work supports the Annual Governance Statement.

Recommendation:

Members are asked to note the Internal Audit Annual Opinion on the effectiveness of governance, risk and control in the delivery of EDDC Objectives.

Reason for recommendation:

It is a requirement that the Audit and Governance Committee note the Annual Opinion.

Officer: Lisa Fryer, Assistant Director, SWAP.

Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

- □ Climate Action and Emergency Response
- □ Coast, Country and Environment
- □ Council and Corporate Co-ordination
- □x Democracy, Transparency and Communications
- □ Economy and Assets
- □x Finance
- □ Strategic Planning
- □ Sustainable Homes and Communities
- □ Tourism, Sports, Leisure and Culture

Financial implications:

There are no direct financial implications identified.

Legal implications:

The legal framework is reflected in the report. While there are no direct legal implications arising, ensuring Key Actions are carried out will reduce risk to the Council which in turn will reduce the chance of failures or challenges occurring.

Equalities impact Low Impact

Climate change Low Impact Risk: Low Risk; Links to background information Internal Audit Plan and Charter March 2022 Internal Audit Progress Report November 2022 Internal Audit Progress Report January 2023 (circulated to members) Internal Audit Progress Report March 2022

Link to Council Plan

Priorities (check which apply)

□ Better homes and communities for all

 \Box A greener East Devon

 \boxtimes A resilient economy