

Report to: **Audit and Governance Committee**



Date of Meeting 29 July 2021

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None

Review date for release N/A

Annual Assurance Opinion (2020/21) – July 2021

Report summary:

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

The 2020-21 Annual Audit Plan provided independent and objective assurance on EDDC Internal Control Environment. This work supported the Annual Governance Statement.

Recommendation:

Members are asked to note the 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: Alastair Woodland, Assistant Director, SWAP.

Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

- Climate Action
- Coast, Country and Environment
- Corporate Services and COVID-19 Response and Recovery
- Democracy and Transparency
- Economy and Assets
- Finance
- Policy Co-ordination and Regional Engagement
- Strategic Planning
- Sustainable Homes and Communities

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 N/A

Link to [Council Plan](#):

Priorities (check which apply)

- Outstanding Place and Environment
- Outstanding Homes and Communities
- Outstanding Economic Growth, Productivity, and Prosperity
- Outstanding Council and Council Services