


Appendix C – Audit Executive Summaries – Final Reports issued since last update

Fusion ICT Review 2022-23

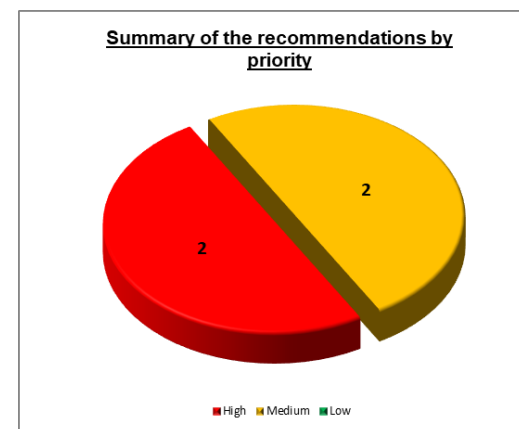
Directorate Finance and Resources Division Finance Previous review: June 2022	Overall Opinion: Limited Assurance	Direction of Travel: 
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Scope and Approach: This review considered the following aspects of the Council's elements of Oracle Fusion:


- User Management / Access controls
- NCC Feeder file processing
- OTBI report construction and assurance

High Priority Recommendations

- 2022-23 R2 There should be routine review of Fusion user accounts to ensure that they are closed promptly.
In addition, any roles that are identified as having an elevated level of access should be reviewed with EMSS sys Admin to ensure that level of access continues to be appropriate.
- 2022-23 R3 A formal reconciliation should be undertaken by Adult Residential Services to ensure that payments are accurate and complete.



Data Analytics Colleague Expenses 2023

Directorate: Finance & Resources Division: Finance and HR & EDI Previous review: Data Analytics Colleague Expenses 2019/20	Overall Opinion: No Assurance	Direction of Travel: 
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Scope and Approach: The objective of this review is to complete an analytical review of business claims using new techniques including unsupervised machine learning, the scope includes:

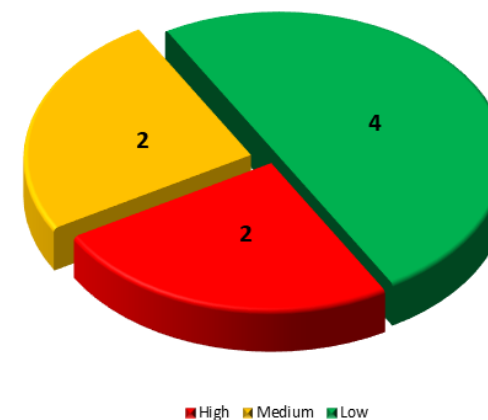
- Benford's Law to identify anomalous data
- Trial of Clustering machine learning techniques to identify potentially fraudulent claims
- Relative Size Factor testing to identify potentially fraudulent claims
- Z-Score testing to identify potentially fraudulent claims
- Keyword detection to identify non-compliance with policy
- Duplicate claim search

High Priority Recommendations


2023-24 R2 - HR & EDI should review all policies governing business expenses and condense them into one single policy. The policy should make it clear that line managers are responsible for scrutinising all expense claims and reject claims that do not meet the policy. The policy should include clear deadlines for submitting claims (e.g. within 30 days of the expense) and claims will be rejected outside this period.

2023-24 R4 - Finance should undertake work to determine if the council is complying with all HMRC regulations governing expense claims or if reports need to be made to HMRC to report employees receiving additional earnings paid in the form of expenses.

Summary of the recommendations by priority



Treasury Management 2022-24

Department: Finance & Resources Previous review: Treasury Management 2021/22	Overall Opinion: Limited Assurance	Direction of Travel: Deteriorates 
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Scope and Approach: This review considered the following aspects of the system:

- ❖ Treasury management complies with the legislation and CIPFA Code of Practice to include borrowing and lending activities
- ❖ The existence of an agreed treasury management strategy that follows the CIPFA Treasury Management Code.
- ❖ The adequacy of the treasury management risk register to manage identified risk
- ❖ A review of current processes to ensure the Treasury Management Strategy is followed
- ❖ A review of treasury management activities to ensure they are correctly recorded in the accounts
- ❖ A review of the Investment Strategy including debt repayment
- ❖ A review of prudential indicators and limits
- ❖ A review of controls in place to ensure that investment opportunities are appropriately identified, and a sound authorisation process is applied.
- ❖ The existence and coverage of fidelity guarantees for all appropriate staff

High Priority Recommendations

22-24 R1 Implement changes to reporting, TM Strategy, Annual Investment Strategy, Capital Strategy, to TMPs, IMPs, and indicators to meet requirements set out in the 2021 revisions to the Prudential and TM Codes. Report 2022-23 annual report to Executive Board.

22-24 R2 Treasury Management Practices should be regularly reviewed and updated where necessary

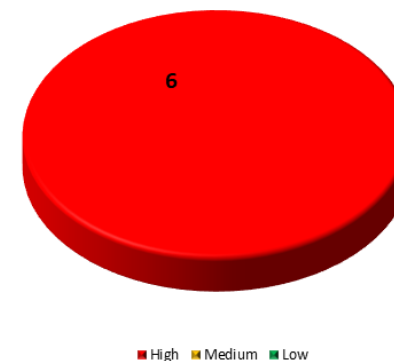
22-24 R3 Investment Management Practices for non-treasury investments should be set out according to requirements in the new Codes and implemented.

22/23 R4 The Treasury Management Risk Register should be regularly reviewed and updated by the TM Panel. Action should be taken promptly if a new risk is identified. The Panel should determine how risks connected to business continuity arising from personnel changes and interim appointments will be mitigated.

22-24 R5 The Treasury Management Panel should continue to meet at least quarterly to monitor and review Treasury Management activity.

22-24 R6 Loan and investment reconciliations should be reported to the Treasury Management Panel as part of its controls assurance at least quarterly.


Summary of the recommendations
by priority



Physical and Environmental Controls Follow-up 2023-24

An executive summary is included within the exempt papers for this meeting.

Caldicott Governance Follow-up 2023

<p>Directorate Finance and Resources Division Strategy and Policy Previous review: Caldicott Governance 2022/23</p>	<p>Overall Opinion: Limited Assurance</p>	<p>Direction of Travel: There has been no improvement in the level of control in this area. </p>
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Scope and Approach: This review has followed up the outstanding recommendations made within the 2022/23 report.

High Priority Recommendations

- 2022-23 R1 The duties and responsibilities should be formally established within the nominated officer's job description.
- 2022-23 R2 The role of the Caldicott Guardian should be widely publicised to ensure appropriate advice is provided and citizens may have a point of reference should they wish to complain about their data being shared.
- 2022-23 R4 All relevant officers should undergo the appropriate level of training to ensure that they have a full understanding of the role and how they can ensure that the Caldicott principles may be addressed.
- 2022-23 R5 Steps should be taken to ensure that the Council complies with the mandated guidance and future applicable requirements issued by the National Data Guardian.
- 2022-23 R6 The Caldicott Guardian should be consulted when compiling DPIA's and undertaking data breach investigations in order that they have an awareness of the issues and where required may offer appropriate advice.

