Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – November 18, 2020

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Item No. 2 Audit Plan 2021

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee, in its capacity as the Audit Committee, concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and recommended to Council:

1. That this report be received as information.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Browaty,

That the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Yea:	Bowman, Allard, Browaty, Gillingham, Gilroy, Mayes, Rollins	7
Nay:		0

Carried

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Audit Plan 2021

Critical Path: Audit Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
B. Mansky	B. Mansky City Auditor		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Audit Department's Audit Plan 2021 sets out the list of departmental projects planned for the coming year and highlights the status of the projects undertaken in 2020.

The Department proposes to temporarily suspend the two-year audit planning process for a single year. The focus of the Department for 2021 will be a number of investigations based on areas identified as high-priority through preliminary investigation of previous year's Fraud and Waste Hotline reports.

The hotline helps deter fraud, waste, and wrongdoing; strengthen internal control and mitigate risks; and improve policies and operating procedures. It is for this reason we believe it is in the best interests of our clients and stakeholders, to increase the resources dedicated to investigations and demonstrate our commitment to corporate accountability, transparency and a sound, ethical work environment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That this report be received as information.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

The report is being submitted in accordance with the City Organization By-law 7100/97 section 4(19)(d)(ii) that the Audit Committee will "approve the Audit Department's annual audit plan."

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no implications to the recommendation that the report be received as information.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

The attached Audit Plan is an annual update and identifies the areas considered a priority for the coming year. The focus of the Department for 2021 will be a number of investigations based on areas identified as high-priority through preliminary investigation of previous year's Fraud and Waste Hotline reports. As identified in the Audit Department's 2019 Annual Report the volume and complexity of investigations has been increasing in recent years.

Individual investigations need to be conducted on a timely basis since in many cases there is a time sensitivity to the report contents. As the number of investigations has increased so has the number of hours required to perform the investigations. The Department has engaged a professional services firm to support internal resources in the timely investigation of the reports.

	# of Fraud & Waste Hotline Reports	# of Investigations Initiated
2020 (To October 31)	122	65
2019	117	58
2018	114	27

	Internal Resource Hours	External Resource Hours	Total Hours
2020 (To October 31)	880	519	1,399
2019	1,152	0	1,152
2018	657	0	657

The greater number of investigations undertaken over the last couple of years has afforded an opportunity to identify some areas of concern warranting broader investigation. The Audit Department has identified four organizational units and two process-oriented systems that we intend to perform investigations on in 2021. These investigations will provide assurance by evaluating key controls and internal processes. The specific areas to be investigated are not identified at this time to ensure continued preservation of evidence.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date: November 5, 2020

Project Name:

Audit Plan 2021

Comments:
There are no financial implications associated with receiving this report as information.

electronically signed by T. Yanchishyn
Tanis Yanchishyn
Manager of Finance (Campus)
Corporate Finance Department

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with: N/A

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

01-3 Prosperity - Direction 1 - Provide Efficient and Focused Civic Administration and Governance

This report supports the demonstration of accountability through reporting and to continuously pursue innovative, streamlined service delivery and decision-making processes.

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

The City of Winnipeg Audit Department provides assurance on the efficiency, effectiveness and economy of City programs and activities, thus enabling an organizational operating environment that promotes support of the vision and targets of the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan."

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Audit Department
Prepared by: Bryan Mansky, City Auditor
Date: November 4, 2020

Attachment: Audit Plan 2021