

**Internal Audit Results / Planned Activity**

Key Area	Update
<p><b>Pensions, payroll and benefit calculations:</b> Annual review to provide assurance that systems and controls ensure that lump sum and on-going pension payments are calculated correctly, are valid and paid to the correct recipients; all changes to on-going pensions are accurate and timely; and pension payroll runs are accurate, complete, timely and secure with all appropriate deductions made and paid over to the relevant bodies.</p>	<p>This review has sought to assess the effectiveness of controls in place focusing on those designed to mitigate risk in achieving the following key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only valid pensioners and pensions are paid.</li> <li>• Pension benefit calculations are correctly calculated and set up on UPM.</li> <li>• Changes to payroll, including bulk data uploads are valid, authorised, timely and accurate.</li> <li>• Payrolls are run accurately, completely and at the correct time.</li> <li>• Payments are recorded promptly and accurately in the main accounting system.</li> <li>• Payroll deductions are paid over to relevant bodies accurately and promptly and are accounted for correctly.</li> </ul> <p>A substantial assurance opinion was given.</p>
<p><b>Treasury Management:</b> Cash flow is adequately planned, with surplus monies invested in line with the Council's Treasury Management Strategy.</p>	<p>This review has sought to assess the effectiveness of controls in place focusing on those designed to mitigate risk in achieving the following key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treasury management arrangements are formalised through effective strategies, policies, and procedures.</li> <li>• Investment and borrowing decisions are documented and approved, and related transactions are recorded, monitored, and accounted for correctly.</li> <li>• Management information enables effective monitoring and reporting of treasury management performance against the treasury management strategy objectives.</li> </ul> <p>A substantial assurance opinion was given.</p>

<p><b>National Fraud Initiative:</b> Full exercise undertaken October 2020 and completed within 6 months and to be undertaken again in October 2022.</p>	<p>Due by 31 March 2023</p>
<p><b>Pension Transfers:</b> To provide assurance over the processes and controls to support the accuracy and timeliness of transfers in and out of the schemes managed by HPS.</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p><b>Member Deaths:</b> To provide assurance that systems and processes ensure that any payments related to deceased members are calculated correctly and paid promptly to the correct recipient, with the risk of overpayments minimised.</p>	<p>Scoping in progress</p>
<p><b>UPM - Cyber Security:</b> To provide assurance over the Cyber Security arrangements for the Pension Administration (UPM) application</p>	<p>Due by 31 March 2023</p>
<p><b>Pensions Payroll and Benefit Calculations:</b> Annual review to provide assurance that systems and controls ensure that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lump sum and on-going pension payments are calculated correctly, are valid and paid to the correct recipients;</li> <li>• All changes to on-going pensions are accurate and timely;</li> <li>• Pension payroll runs are accurate, complete, timely and secure with all appropriate deductions made and paid over to the relevant bodies.</li> </ul>	<p>Due by 31 March 2023</p>