



# Internal Audit Assurance Reports

## Agenda Items 6 and 7

### National Park Authority Audit & Risk Committee Meeting Tuesday 7 December 2021

Paper for information

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#### **1. Purpose**

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to advise the Committee of the outcomes from the Internal Audit reviews of Planning Application Management and Health and Safety arrangements within the National Park Authority, together with a summary of the action taken.

#### **2. Recommendation(s)**

2.1 Members are asked to note the content of the reports and request that the Chief Internal Auditor provides follow up reports showing progress towards achievement of the actions arising from the reviews.

#### **3. Contribution to National Park Partnership Plan and/or Our 5-year Plan**

3.1 A sound system of internal control and governance arrangements assists the Park Authority in achieving its strategic objectives and 5-year Plan.

#### **4. Background**

4.1 As part of the agreed Internal Audit Plan, we have undertaken a review of Planning Application Management and Health and Safety arrangements.

#### **5. Audit Opinion**

5.1 In most cases one of four opinions is expressed by Internal Audit based upon the work carried out. The four opinions used are:

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1. The control environment is satisfactory i.e. audit testing found no concerns with the control environment.
  2. A reasonable level of assurance can be placed upon the control environment i.e. audit testing found no major weaknesses in the control environment but some improvements could be made.
  3. A limited level of assurance can be placed upon the control environment i.e. improvements are necessary to ensure the control environment is fit for purpose.
  4. The control environment is unsatisfactory i.e. significant improvements are required before any reliance can be placed upon the control environment.
- 5.2 The Audit Opinions expressed for the reviews of Planning Application Management and Health and Safety arrangements were “a reasonable level of assurance can be placed upon the control environment”.

### 6. Appendices

Agenda Item 6 – Planning Application Management Review

Agenda Item 7 – Health and Safety Review

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