

Audit and Standards Committee

12th February 2015

Proposal to create a shared audit service with Worcestershire County Council

Recommendation

That the Committee notes and comments on the proposal to transfer the Worcestershire County Council internal audit service to Warwickshire.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 This report informs the Committee of an approach from Worcestershire County Council to create a shared audit service.
- 1.2 The proposal involves those internal auditors currently employed by Worcestershire County Council transferring to Warwickshire from a date to be agreed in early 2015. The combined team would provide audit services to both County Councils and to their existing external clients.
- 1.3 Following the initial approach from Worcestershire preliminary discussions have taken place from which it is clear that this proposal offers opportunities to reduce costs, add value, and increase resilience and efficiency for both authorities whilst providing a good foundation for greater collaboration with other local authorities and the wider public sector.
- 1.4 It has therefore been agreed that both Councils will continue to investigate this proposal and any issues arising with a view to preparing a business case. If the outcome of the investigations is positive the likely timescale is for the proposal to be considered by full Council on 24th March.
- 1.5 A verbal update on developments will be provided at the meeting and members will be kept informed of subsequent developments.

2.0 Background Papers

None

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