



Glasgow City Council

Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee

Report by Head of Audit and Inspection

Contact: Jillian Campbell

Extension: 74247

Item 4

18th June 2025

GLOBAL INTERNAL AUDIT STANDARDS UPDATE

Purpose of Report

To provide Members of the Committee with an update regarding the progress made to ensuring compliance with the new Global Internal Audit Standards in the UK Public Sector (GIAS).

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to:

- 1) Consider and note the Internal Audit update on Global Internal Audit Standards.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ☐

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐

consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

1. Progress Update

- 1.1 From 1 April 2025 Internal Audit teams in the UK will be working to new professional standards. These will be a combination of the [Global Internal Audit Standards](#) (GIAS) and the [Application Note](#) “Global Internal Audit Standards in the UK Public Sector”. For Local Authorities, the [Code of Practice](#) on the Governance of Internal Audit should also be used to interpret some of the essential conditions in the new standards.
- 1.2. Whilst 1 April 2025 is the effective date for the new standards, Internal Audit teams will not be required to demonstrate full compliance on this date. They must work in accordance with the new standards from 1 April in order to build up their conformance.
- 1.3 As reported to Committee in [March 2025](#), Internal Audit has undertaken a gap analysis to determine what actions are required to ensure compliance with the new standards. An action plan has been developed which sets out the main actions we intend to take and a timescale for implementation – this is noted in Appendix 1.
- 1.4 Progress made to date includes the delivery of training sessions to the audit team to communicate upcoming changes and outline the new processes that auditors will be expected to follow. Additional team sessions are scheduled over the coming months to provide more detailed guidance and support on key areas. Existing documentation is also undergoing a review to ensure alignment with the updated requirements.
- 1.5 The Global Internal Audit Standards incorporate *Topical Requirements*, which are intended to establish clear and consistent expectations for internal auditors by defining a minimum baseline for auditing specific risk areas. While these requirements are not automatically applicable to internal audit functions within the UK public sector, each one is subject to review by the Internal Audit Standards Advisory Board (IASAB) to determine its relevance and applicability upon issuance.
- 1.6 The first *Topical Requirement*, focused on *Cybersecurity*, has been reviewed by the IASAB and deemed fully applicable to the UK public sector, effective from February 2026. In response, we will integrate this requirement into our audit testing programmes when planning and conducting audits related to cybersecurity.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
 - 1) Consider and note the Internal Audit update on Global Internal Audit Standards.

Appendix 1 – GIAS Implementation Action Plan

Item Number	Action	Responsible Officer	Due Date/Progress Made
1	Hold team sessions to outline new GIAS requirements and provide support to audit team	Chief Auditor	Team session held in March 2025 Further sessions planned for June, September and December 2025
2	Hold training sessions with the audit team to explain new practical requirements	Senior Audit Managers	Sessions commenced in April 2025
3	Update Audit Manual and relevant procedures to reflect changes required by GIAS	Quality Champion	Ongoing – due by September 2025
4	Update Audit Charter to reflect changes required by GIAS	Chief Auditor	Complete
5	Organise External Quality Assessment (EQA)	Head of Audit & Inspection	Agree approach by September 2025.
6	Develop local Scheme of Delegation to reflect operational arrangements	Senior Audit Managers	June 2025
7	Update pre-audit meeting checklist to reflect requirement to discuss ethics	Quality Champion	June 2025
8	Develop Internal Audit Strategy	Head of Audit & Inspection	July 2025
9	Undertake assessments of audit fieldwork to check compliance with requirements	Senior Audit Managers	Periodic deep dives into audit fieldwork to commence by August 2025
10	Review document retention arrangements to ensure they are fit for purpose and being complied with	Senior Audit Managers	December 2025

Item Number	Action	Responsible Officer	Due Date/Progress Made
11	Update agenda for Annual Audit Planning Meetings	Chief Auditor/Head of Audit & Inspection	To be updated prior to meetings in January 2026
12	Review template for audit surveys to ensure useful feedback is obtained	Audit Manager	July 2025