

CENTRAL SOUTH CONSORTIUM
REPORT FOR JOINT COMMITTEE

17TH MARCH 2022

JOINT EDUCATION SERVICE

**REPORT OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR – 2021/22 INTERNAL AUDIT
REPORT (2020/2021 GRANT FUNDING)**

Author: Louise Blatchford, Deputy Managing Director

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the Internal Audit report issued by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's Internal Audit Service to the Central South Consortium during 2021/22.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Review the Internal Audit Report issued during 2021/22 and determine whether there are any matters of governance or an internal control nature that require further action or attention.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Central South Consortium is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs and facilitating the effective exercise of those functions.
- 3.2 One aspect of governance is the system of internal control and Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's Internal Audit Service undertake audit work each year to independently assess the adequacy of this area from a financial administrative perspective. This work is undertaken in line with the Legal Agreement for the Central South Consortium.

- 3.2 Members will be aware the Central South Consortium is also responsible for undertaking an assessment of its governance arrangements each year, including the system of internal control, the findings from which are set out in an Annual Governance Statement (AGS). The conclusions from Internal Audit’s work during 2021-22 will form part of the AGS for this period (with the AGS being reported to the 24th May 2022 Joint Committee meeting).

4. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT ISSUED IN 2021/22

- 4.1 For the 2021/22 financial year, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council’s Internal Audit Service reviewed two grant claims made by Central South Consortium as per the requirements of the respective terms and conditions of the grant. Details of the outcome of the reviews are set out in Table 1 and a copy of the respective reports are included at Appendix 1.

Table 1 – Internal Audit Report Issued in 2021/22

Internal Audit Report Issued	Conclusions	Number of Recommendations Reported	Number of Recommendations Implemented
Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant (RCSIG) claim for 2020/2021	Substantial Assurance	0	0
Pupil Development Grant (PDG) claim for 2020/2021	Substantial Assurance	0	0

5. CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 Internal Audit play an important role in providing independent assurance on the systems of internal control operating within the Central South Consortium.
- 5.2 Based on the work undertaken by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council’s Internal Audit Service during the year, no recommendations for improvement were deemed necessary in respect of the Consortium’s internal control arrangements.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

17th MARCH 2022

CENTRAL SOUTH CONSORTIUM JOINT COMMITTEE

List of background papers

Freestanding matter

Officer to Contact:

Louise Blatchford
Tel no. 01443 281400