



Audit and Standards Committee Report

Report of: Interim Director of Legal and Governance

Date: 16 February 2023

Subject: Housing Management System – Audit Update

Author of Report: Director of Legal and Governance (Interim)

Summary:

The report updates the committee on the meeting of the audit recommendation, to update the Open Housing Management System, to appraise the committee of reports to the Housing Policy Committee, and to note the planned audit activity in the next municipal year (2023/24) in relation to the Housing Management System.

Recommendations:

That the Audit and Standards Committee:-

- (a) note the contents of this report, and the reporting and performance oversight activity under the Housing Policy Committee in relation to the Housing Management System;
 - (b) note that the Internal Auditor will conduct an audit of the Housing Management System and where the audit finds that there is *no assurance or a limited assurance with high organisational impact*, it will form the basis of a report to this committee.
-

Background Papers: **Internal Audit Recommendations – Review off Open Housing Management System - Report to Audit and Standard Committee (16 June 2022)**

[8. Report 16.6.2022.pdf \(sheffield.gov.uk\)](#)

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial Implications
NO Cleared by:
Legal Implications
NO Cleared by:
Equality of Opportunity Implications
NO Cleared by:
Tackling Health Inequalities Implications
NO
Human rights Implications
NO:
Environmental and Sustainability implications
NO
Economic impact
NO
Community safety implications
NO
Human resources implications
NO
Property implications
NO
Area(s) affected
NONE
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
NO
Press release
NO

1. **Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The report updates the committee of activity undertaken following the conclusion of the audit of the Open Housing Management System, in the discharge of functions falling to the Housing Policy Committee to oversee and scrutinise.
- 1.2 The report separately notes that an audit of the Housing Management System will be conducted as part of the 2023/24 audit plan. Where the outcome of an audit is a finding of *no assurance* or a *limited assurance with high organisational impact*, it will form the basis of a report to this committee.

2. **Introduction and background**

Audit Activity

- 2.1 On 16 June 2022 a report was presented to the Audit and Standards Committee which noted, in summary:

An internal audit review of the Open Housing Management System application was completed in January 2018 and reviewed in June 2018. There was a recommendation from the internal audit that:

the system is not currently up to date and considerable expense and effort will be required to enable this, it is recommended that an options review is undertaken to ascertain what the best method is to take the application forward.

The report will outline the work we have completed to meet the recommendations and an update on the replacement of the Housing Management System

- 2.2 The Committee resolved to agree the following recommendation:

to note this report and close the outstanding audit action as it is complete also note the progress to replace the Open Housing Management System and associated systems

2.3 The minutes (June 2022) recorded:

7.9 A Member of the Committee asked if a further update could be provided to Members of the Committee around the implementation plan and key dates. The Director of Legal and Governance stated that the Housing Policy Committee may be better suited to oversee the implementation of the new system rather than the Audit & Standards Committee.

7.10 RESOLVED: That (1) Members of the Audit and Standards Committee are recommended to note this report and close the outstanding audit action as it is complete also note the progress to replace the Open Housing Management System and associated systems; and (2) that regular updates on the implementation of the new system is passed to the Housing Policy Committee, and that this Committee is involved as and if necessary

Housing Policy Committee updates and oversight

2.4 Officers concerned with the delivery of the Housing Management System project have provided updates to Housing Policy Committee, reflecting its exclusive role as the supervisory committee with competence over its implementation. Those updates continue to be delivered in accordance with a programmed provision of knowledge updates.

2023/24 Audit Plan: Housing Management System – Audit

2.5 An audit of the Housing Management System will be conducted as part of the 2023/24 audit plan. Where the outcome of an audit is a finding of *no assurance* or a *limited assurance with high organisational impact*, it will form the basis of a report to this committee.