

Report to Audit and Risk Assurance Committee

18 July 2024

Subject:	Oracle Cloud Implementation Report
Director:	Alex Thompson Executive Director of Finance of Transformation
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1 Recommendation

- 1.1 That the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee consider and comment upon the contents of Grant Thornton's report on the council's Oracle Cloud implementation.

2 Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 To inform the Committee on the contents of Grant Thornton's report on the council's Oracle Cloud implementation.

3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

- 3.1 The work of the external auditors is an important element of the accountability and transparency of the council's finances in helping to support all of the council's objectives.



4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 Grant Thornton the council's external auditors, included in their programme of work for 2023/24, a high-level overview of the council's Oracle Cloud implementation, assessing:
- Revised project governance structures, budgets and resource plans;
 - System and user acceptance testing;
 - Data migration;
 - Security;
 - Go live planning;
 - Training; and
 - Business readiness and change.
- 4.2 Upon completion of their review, a report was prepared setting out a number of recommendations.
- 4.3 Following receipt of the report the council has continued to liaise with Grant Thornton and has prepared an accompanying Action Plan in order to track progress made against the recommendations.
- 4.4 Within the programme governance, there is a strict criteria in place to assess the council's readiness for go-live from both a technical and organisational perspective, including feedback from officers across the council and other partners. In July 2024 it was determined that such feedback pointed to the council not being quite ready to go live yet, and the Programme Board therefore made the decision to revise the timeline. This will allow programme and business teams more time to meet demand for training and user engagement, complete further testing and improve critical work in areas such as data collection, security and support. This will ensure everything is in place to make Go-Live as seamless a journey as possible. Therefore, the Go-Live dates have moved from July / August to September / October 2024.
- 4.5 As part of regular liaison, Grant Thornton have been briefed on the outcome of the recent Programme Board, where it was agreed to move the Go-Live date to September / October 24.



5 Alternative Options

- 5.1 The purpose of the report is to inform the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee of the contents of Grant Thornton's report on the council's Oracle Cloud implementation. As such, there is no alternative option.

6 Implications

Resources:	There are no direct resource implications arising from this report.
Legal and Governance:	The Secretary of State makes the Accounts and Audit Regulations in exercise of powers conferred by the Local Audit and Accountability Act.
Risk:	The recommendations and agreed actions detailed in the Grant Thornton report are designed to mitigate risks.
Equality:	It was not necessary to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment.
Health and Wellbeing:	There are no direct health and wellbeing implications from this report.
Social Value	There are no direct social value implications from this report.
Climate Change	There are no direct climate change implications from this report.
Corporate Parenting	There are no direct corporate parenting implications from this report.

7. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Grant Thornton – Oracle Cloud Implementation Report

8. Background Papers

N/A

