## Summary progress against 2020-21 audits as at 17 May 2021

## Audits 'completed' to at least draft issued stage and/or on-going advisory work/Prior year jobs

Ref <sup>1</sup>	Type <sup>2</sup>	Audit title	Assurance objective	Position @ 17 May 2021
21-A	N/A	Continuation of work commenced in 2019-20	To complete any outstanding audits	Complete
21-B	GO	Annual Governance Statement 2019-20	Review of the management self-assessments of assurance in the 2019-20 AGS	Final report issued – Substantial     Assurance
21-C	GO	Transition to Financial Reporting Standard 102	Preparedness for the movement from CIPFA to FRS 102 to include governance related reports supporting the financial statements	Final report issued - Substantial     Assurance
21-E	GO	Frameworks	Developing any new offerings	As reported previously, two pieces of advisory work completed in respect of the analysis and reworking of ESPO's Procurement Workplan for the remainder of 2020/21 in order to adjust Business as Usual activity as a result of the effect of COVID-19.
21-G	RM	Warehouse	Original Objective: Review of the capital investment decision process  Revised Objective: To provide advisory through the project lifecycle (see 2021/22 plan)	Advisory Complete for 2020/21
21-H	RM	Credit Control	Review of credit control arrangements especially with export and private sector and due diligence routines	Final Report issued – Partial Assurance     Control improvements identified as being required in the following areas:

				<ul> <li>Defined procedures</li> <li>Credit Control Policy</li> <li>Debt Management Policy</li> <li>Suitably Qualified and Trained Staff adhering to policies/procedures</li> <li>Timely Management Information</li> <li>System Access</li> <li>Effective link between the management of credit and the supply of goods and/or services</li> <li>Financial regulations embedded into business processes</li> <li>Segregation of Duties</li> <li>Remedial action to be tested prior to Management Committee in September 21 – see Job Ref 22–I in the 21/22 Internal Audit Plan.</li> </ul>
21-1	RM	Counter Fraud - NFI	Results are correctly interpretation and investigated	<ul> <li>Matched reports were received in February 2021 and promptly issued to relevant ESPO Officers to review</li> <li>Completion of investigatory work has been requested by end of May 2021</li> <li>Further work will be undertaken therefore in 2021/22 (See Job 22-J)</li> </ul>
21-J	RM	Counter Fraud - Procurement	Specific area(s) of potential fraud are addressed	Draft report issued
21-K	RM	Website Development	Key risks and issues are effectively identified and managed - project governance and assurance on user testing and training	<ul> <li>Terms of engagement previously agreed</li> <li>Ongoing control advice as critical friend on project board</li> <li>Additionally, ad-hoc practitioner advice given by the ICT auditor</li> </ul>

				Work will continue into 21/22 – See Job 22-K
21-L	RM	IT Developments	Replacing e-mail servers into the cloud; future delivery methods	All development work was incorporated into Key ICT Controls coverage for 20/21 – see Job 21-O.
21-M	RM	Emerging Risks	ESPO identification and preparedness for any emerging risks e.g. climate change requirements	<ul> <li>Climate Change Internal Control Questionnaire issued to Leadership Team</li> <li>Further work to be undertaken in 21/22</li> </ul>
21-N	IC	General Financial Systems	To discuss with the External Auditor and Assistant Director (Finance), but typical coverage includes reconciliations; receivables; payables; payroll and stock	Draft Report Issued
21-0	IC	IT General Controls	The range of controls expected by the External Auditor are well designed and consistently applied.	Draft Report Issued
21-Q	IC	Servicing Authority	Key Performance Indicators for services provided by the Servicing Authority are adhered to	Draft Report Issued

# Substitute/Additional Jobs – All completed:

Ref	<u>Type</u>	Audit title	Assurance objective	Position @ 17 May 2021
21-S1	IC	Contingency – Cyber Issue	To investigate a fraudulent invoice associated with an ESPO client	Advisory - work complete (all procedures at ESPO operated correctly – the issue was at the customer end)
21-S2	IC	Contingency – HR Compatibility claim	To ascertain validity of the claim and any associated lessons learned.	Advisory Complete
21-S3	IC	Contingency – IT Assurances during COVID	Adequate IT Controls are in place during the Covid-19 Pandemic.	Substantial Assurance

21-S4	IC	Contingency – Receivables and Payables Assurances during COVID	Key Receivables and Payables Assurances were maintained during the initial move to offsite working	Advisory – work complete and no issues raised
21-S5	RM	Counter Fraud Risk Assessment	'Identification of Potential Fraud Risks in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Counter Fraud (2014)	Advisory – work complete and no issues raised

# **Audits in progress**

Ref	<u>Type</u>	Audit title	Assurance objective	Position @ 17 May 2021
21-D	GO	Transition from EU	Preparedness for potential supply chain issues and workforce issues	Self-Assessment questionnaire returned by ESPO Leadership Team – results currently being analysed  (Note: Work purposely delayed until deal/no deal situation was known and could be factored in)
21-R	IC	Overseas Travel	Post event reviews	Report currently being compiled

#### **Audits not started**

None

#### **Deferred Jobs**

21-F	GO	Business Growth – Strategic Alliance(s)	Business case development, review and approval	•	Deferred into 21/22 (COVID has delayed some of the progress work at the ESPO end)
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21-P	IC	Rebates Income	Annual audit to evaluate whether rebates received conform to estimates of supplier	•	Supplier visits have not been possible – deferred into 21/22
			business generated - focus will be on site visits		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>unique reference numbers based on the financial year in question (i.e. '21-A' relates to the first entry on the approved 2020/21 audit plan) <sup>2</sup> the three elements of the control environment (governance, risk management and internal control) <sup>3</sup> traditionally audits where the external auditor has placed reliance on the work of internal audit

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