

**BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO AUDIT COMMITTEE  
3<sup>rd</sup> June 2009**

**REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR - RESOURCES**

**COMPLETED AUDITS**

**1. Purpose of Report.**

1.1. To summarise for members the findings of the audits recently completed by the Internal Audit Division.

**2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Plan / Other Corporate Priority.**

2.1. Internal Audit's work impacts on all of the Corporate Improvement Plan/other corporate priorities.

**3. Background**

3.1. Internal Audit conducts reviews according to an annual audit plan and reports findings to Audit Committee.

**4. Current situation / proposal.**

4.1. Recently completed audits are summarised in the following table:

Report	System Overview	Report Issued	Audit Days	Key Messages	Audit Opinion	Key Action Plan Dates
Firewall	<p>The firewall is designed to block unauthorised access to the Authority network while permitting outward communication. It controls the flow of network traffic based upon a set of rules and other criteria.</p>	April 2009	5 days	<p>There have not been any significant changes in the configuration of the firewall since the previous audit.</p> <p>All areas of major impact are covered by the functions of the Firewall and change procedures are documented and followed.</p> <p>The Firewall is over 6 years old and while there is no immediate risk of impending failure there could be capacity problems in the future. It will be replaced later this year.</p> <p>The physical location of the "standby" Firewall is not ideal from a disaster recovery aspect, but this will be addressed when the firewall is replaced.</p>	Adequate Assurance	September 2009
Storage Management	<p>The Data Centre stores the data used by all of the Authority's IT systems. It comprises a Storage Area Network (SAN), stand alone servers and a dedicated backup site.</p>	May 2009	5 days	<p>Since the last review, the management of the team's skill sets and training needs is greatly improved and there is no longer reliance on one member of staff.</p> <p>The location of the backup facility is very close to the IT Centre but this is being looked at in line with the Corporate Accommodation Strategy.</p>	Adequate Assurance	March 2010

Family Link	The Family Link Scheme is a component of the Fostering Children's Service and provides respite care for disabled children and their carers / families.	February 2009	5 days	<p>The audit established that there was good documentation of decision making with regular reporting of activity and control of payments to Family Link carers. The scheme's objectives were known and were being met.</p> <p>As a consequence no recommendations were made.</p>	Substantial Assurance	N/A
Payroll	The centralised payroll function administers the processing of salaries and wages for over 7000 employees.	January 2009	45 days	See Report (Appendix A)	Limited Assurance	September 2009

4.2. Members will note the opinion of limited assurance in respect of Payroll. I attach the full report in Appendix A to this report and have requested management attendance at the committee.

4.3 I will be happy to deal with any points members wish to raise on these audits or if they wish to produce a fuller report at the next meeting.

**5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules.**

5.1. None

**6. Legal Implications.**

6.1. There are no legal implications.

**7. Financial Implications.**

7.1. None

**8. Recommendation.**

8.1. That Members note the report

**Gareth Moss**  
**Director of Resources**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> June 2009**

**Contact Officers:** Kay Lucas – Computer Auditor  
Emma Samways – Group Auditor  
Gerry Doak – Group Auditor

**Telephone:** (01656) 754900

**E-mail:** kay.lucas@bridgend.gov.uk

**Postal Address**  
Bridgend County Borough Council  
Brackla House  
Brackla Street  
Bridgend  
CF31 1BZ

**Background documents**

Internal Audit reports relating to the above audits held within the Internal Audit Division