

CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

FOR DECISION

**Title: INTERNAL AUDIT REVIEW: LEADER
ADMINISTRATION**

**Prepared by: CLAIRE ROBERTSON, BDO
ANDREW O'DONNELL, BDO**

Purpose

To present the internal auditor's report on LEADER Programme Administration.

Recommendations

The Audit & Risk Committee is asked to:

- a) **Consider the internal auditor's findings.**
- b) **Endorse the management responses to the recommendations for action raised by the internal auditor.**

Executive Summary

1. The Park Authority's internal auditors, BDO, have undertaken a review on Project Financing as part of the agreed 2016/17 internal audit plan. This review has a direct relevance to the Authority's mitigation and management of strategic risk AII on the Authority's strategic risk register:

"Resourcing: Role as Lead / Accountable body for major programmes (e.g. LEADER, Landscape Partnership) has risk of significant financial clawback should expenditure prove to be not eligible for funding, while CNPA carries responsibilities as employer for programme staff."
2. The review also has an indirect reference to mitigation of strategic risk AI, where the Authority identifies the need to seek to continue to support diversified income streams to deliver National Park Partnership Plan objectives. This review helps substantiate our robustness in administrative support of a significant strand of income for the National Park.
3. The full report arising from the review is included as Annex 1 to this paper.
4. The report grades both the design and operational effectiveness as "substantial" – definitions of the grading system are set out in Appendix 2 to the attached report. There are no recommendations for improvement actions raised in this review.

David Cameron, Director of Corporate Services
7 December 2016 davidcameron@cairngorms.co.uk