

# Internal Controls Specialist (Assurance Lead)

# Grade E Director of Governance & Risk Head of Risk & Assurance Internal Controls Specialist (Assurance Lead) No Direct Reports Department Governance & Assurance

### **Role Overview**

Support the delivery, maintenance and operation of the Internal Control Framework across Your Housing Group, ensuring controls are effectively identified, designed and in operation;

Support with ensuring risks are mitigated, undertaking internal controls testing; working with the Group's Internal Audit provider to ensure a consolidated view of the assessment of risk and mitigating controls within the wider environment and an effective structure is in place to support the assurance provided to the Group.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Developing and undertaking testing of a risk-based assurance plan aimed at embedding a controls assurance framework within YHG and individual business areas.
- Ensuring that the Group has a breadth of control and assurance activities (for example, preventative and detective controls and assurance across all three lines).
  - Using the outputs of the controls testing to provide feedback to the business in an engaging and
- supportive manner. Suggesting to management areas where further controls are required or need to be enhanced and making recommendations and seeing these through to fruition.
- Advise and support colleagues on internal control, during period of change or where new processes are being developed; upskilling and educating the wider business functions, when required.
- Maintain positive and effective working relationships with senior managers and colleagues, to enable
- effective communication, problem-solving, and a supportive environment to ensure an effective internal control framework is maintained.
- Be objective, independent and challenging (in a supportive way) with key stakeholders across the Group, to identify areas of risk and control weakness or assurance.

Our values









- Assist with monitoring audit recommendations, liaising with action owners to ensure all recommendations are completed in a way that addresses the risk/control gap.
- Ensure all work undertake is accurately documented and clearly presented.
- Undertake additional duties appropriate to the role and/or grade.

### **STRENGTHS**

- ✓ IT literate (Microsoft Office, Outlook, Word and Excel) at intermediate level
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to make a significant proactive contribution to the development of the internal control environment and associated procedures and processes
- Excellent analytical skills, maintaining accuracy/attention to detail, effective time management with ability to work under pressure to meet deadlines
- Excellent interpersonal and listening skills and able to use these skills effectively, to build strong relationships

### **ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Strong understanding of internal controls, auditing and risk and compliance
- Highly experienced in internal auditing or controls-based assurance role
- Educated to A Level (or equivalent)
- An understanding of assurance activities (3LOD) and their role in improving the internal control environment
- Experience of analysing complex and diverse situations and using own initiate to solve problems
- Making a significant proactive contribution to the development of the internal control environment and associated procedures and processes

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## **BENEFICIAL TO THE ROLE**

- Knowledge of risk identification techniques
- Experience facilitating workshops / training
- Experience of working in a finance background)
- An understanding of the regulatory and legal framework within which Housing Associations operate
- ✓ CRSA (Control Risk Self-Assessment) experience
- ✓ CIMA (Chartered Institute of Management Accountants) /ACA (Institute of Chartered Accountants / ACCA (Association of Certified Chartered Accountants)















