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Northern Ireland Public Service Ombudsman

Internal Audit
2024-25

Governance Framework
November 2024

Overall Conclusion

Satisfactory

Summary of recommendations

Grading of recommendations				
	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Total
Governance Framework	0	0	1	1

As can be seen from the above table there were no recommendations made which we have given a grading of Priority 1.

Recommendation	Grading	Management response
1. We recommend that the SMT considers the maintenance of a decision log to consolidate all decisions made for future reference and for accessible recording.	Priority 3	Accepted

Grading	Classification
Priority 1	Failure to implement the recommendation is likely to result in a major failure of a key organisational objective, significant damage to the reputation of the organisation and the misuse of public funds.
Priority 2	Failure to implement the recommendation could result in the failure of an important organisational objective or could have some impact on a key organisational objective.
Priority 3	Failure to implement the recommendation could lead to an increased risk exposure.

Assurance	Classification
Satisfactory	Overall, there is a satisfactory system of governance, risk management and control. While there may be some residual risk identified, this should not significantly impact on the achievement of system objectives.
Limited	There are significant weaknesses within the governance, risk management and control framework which, if no addressed could lead to the system objectives not being achieved.
Unacceptable	The system of governance, risk management and control has failed or there is a real and substantial risk that the system will fail to meet its objectives.