Internal Audit Office CALENDAR YEAR 2024 EQUITY IMPACT PLAN



Leadership Sponsor: Sharon Pribadi, Department Director

Equity Lead(s): Deirdre Bland, Deputy Director

Departmental Equity Guiding Statement: The Internal Audit Office (IAO) is committed to supporting equity within the county in its role as a provider of independent and objective management assurance that county functions are accountable in equitably serving all citizens.

Context:

Internal Trend – As a result of the adoption of the One Fairfax policy County Departments have increased their focus and emphasis on the development and implantation of programs and activities that increase diversity, equity, and inclusion outcomes and IAO has been sought out to review such activities because of our independence and ability to serve as an objective party.

External Trend - There is an increased focus and emphasis on the topics of diversity, equity and inclusion within the auditing professional organizations in which our staff hold memberships. Organizations are offering focus training and white papers on the topic. Professional sessions have focus on case studies of equity audits, tools for planning audit with a DEI focus, and the use of data to assess equitable outcomes

System-Level Infrastructure:

None

DEPARTMENT GOALS

Goal 1: Audit Process – Incorporate equity into audits by adding specific procedures in research, testing and reporting phases that address equity.

One Fairfax Area(s) of Focus: 18. Other: County departments are accountable for operating in an equitable manner.

Countywide Strategic Plan Community Outcome Area(s): Efficient and Effective Government (EEG)

Relationship to Countywide Strategic Plan Strategies/Metric(s):

Strategy EEG 11. Expand employee learning opportunities to increase staff competencies and experience in the areas of leadership, equity, cultural proficiency, use of technology and innovation to meet the needs of a changing environment.

EEG 25. Develop, pilot, and institute Fairfax County equity-based decision-making tools for planning, projects, decision making and resource allocation.

EEG Indicator: Financial Sustainability and Trustworthiness; Metric: % of audit findings in which auditors have verified the desired corrective action was fully implemented.

Actions	Stakeholders	Resources/ Supports	Responsible Parties	Timeline	Performance Measures
1a. Implement IAO-specific audit procedures and tools for equity in audit planning, fieldwork, and reporting phases	IAO, IAO Audit Universe	Staff Time	Equity Team	Mar 2024 - Dec 2024	
1b. Equity Team to train staff on using equity tool(s), performing procedures and work paper documentation	IAO, IAO Staff	Staff Time	Equity Team	Jan 2024- Jun 2024	1a,1b, and 1c. Number of audits/projects that include equity work
1c. Equity Team to monitor inclusion of equity in audits and applicable projects	IAO, IAO Staff	Staff Time	Equity Team	Jan 2024- Dec 2024	

Goal 2: Staff Education – Encourage and support staff taking internal and external training on the topic of equity.

One Fairfax Area(s) of Focus: 18. Other: County departments are accountable to operating in an equitable manner

Countywide Strategic Plan Community Outcome Area(s): Efficient and Effective Government (EEG)

Relationship to Countywide Strategic Plan Strategies/Metric(s):

Strategy EEG 11. Expand employee learning opportunities to increase staff competencies and experience in the areas of leadership, equity, cultural proficiency, use of technology and innovation to meet the needs of a changing environment.

EEG Indicator: Financial Sustainability and Trustworthiness; Metric: % of audit findings in which auditors have verified the desired corrective action was fully implemented

Actions	Stakeholders	Resources/ Supports	Responsible Parties	Timeline	Performance Measures
2a. Identify equity audit planning, fieldwork, or reporting tools from peer organizations and trainings	IAO Staff	Staff Time, Funds for CPE Courses	Equity Team	Jan 2024 - Dec 2024	Number of documents and/or tools added to IAO Learning Library Number of staff presentations on equity at staff meetings
2b. Identify and recommend continuing education courses for staff to take	IAO Staff	Staff Time, Funds for CPE Courses	Equity Team	Jan 2024 - Dec 2024	Number of Equity related CPE/Training courses and hours completed by staff (Minimum of 2 hrs per staff)
2c. Staff demonstration of ability to identify equity elements in audits/projects	IAO Staff	Staff Time	Equity Team	Jan 2024 – Dec 2024	Number of equity elements identified in audits

Goal 3: Training Materials – Develop and implement a process to review department fraud and internal control training materials to ensure that content is free of biases and is diverse and inclusive.

One Fairfax Area(s) of Focus: 18. Other: County departments are provided training that the reflective of the diversity in the workforce

Countywide Strategic Plan Community Outcome Area(s): Efficient and Effective Government (EEG)

Relationship to Countywide Strategic Plan Strategies/Metric(s):

Strategy EEG 13: Implement a workplace culture change effort to actively promote equity and inclusion, collaboration, excellence, innovation, customer service, transparency, accountability and trustworthiness.

EEG Indicator: Customer Satisfaction with County Services; Metric: % of customers of individual Fairfax County Government services (internal and external) who report hey were satisfied with the service they received

EEG Indicator: Financial Sustainability and Trustworthiness; Metric: % of audit findings in which auditors have verified the desired corrective action was fully implemented

Actions	Stakeholders	Resources/ Supports	Responsible Parties	Timeline	Performance Measures
3a. Review department training materials for inclusion and non-bias treatment of images and case examples	ΙΑΟ	Staff Time	Sharon, Deirdre, & Tara	Jan 2024- Jun 2024	Number of changes made to course images and case examples

Goal 4: Accessibility - Enhance department internal training materials and internal and external websites to increase visibility and ease of reporting ethics and fraud concerns.

One Fairfax Area(s) of Focus: 18. Other

Countywide Strategic Plan Community Outcome Area(s): Efficient and Effective Government (EEG)

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Relationship to Countywide Strategic Plan Strategies/Metric(s):

Strategy EEG 4: Improve public participation and engagement opportunities to ensure all facets of the community are represented and have the physical, technological, and language access necessary to engage and participate in community discussions and decisions

EEG Indicator: Customer Satisfaction with County Services

Metric: % of residents who rate the overall quality and accessibility of Fairfax County Government Services as excellent or good Metric: % of customers of individual Fairfax County Government services (internal and external) who report hey were satisfied with the service they received

Actions	Stakeholders	Resources/ Supports	Responsible Parties	Timeline	Performance Measures
4a Update public website to better highlight the process for reporting fraud and information beneficial for action to be taken	IAO	Staff Time	Sharon, Deirdre, IAO Webmaster	Jan 2024- Apr 2024	 Number of reports with sufficient detail and don't require a follow up call to obtain actionable details Number of calls that are non-related to Fairfax County Operations
4b. Update internal website to better highlight the process for submitted fraud and ethics reports and information beneficial for action to be taken	IAO	Staff Time	Sharon, Deirdre, IAO Webmaster	Jan 2024 – Apr -2024	1) Number of reports with sufficient detail and don't require a follow up call to obtain actionable details

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Department Director's Signature:	Ľ٣.	3030054044	•

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