

# Online Webinars INTERNAL CONTROLS

"8 POWERFUL SESSIONS"

THURSDAYS 05 MAY - 30 JUNE, 2022 10:00 AM - 12:00 AM

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#### **Online webinar: Internal controls**



- ✓ Week 1: Linking internal controls to the risks in strategic and operational risk register
- ✓ Week 2: Designing controls to reach the control objectives
- ✓ Week 3: Choosing the correct control technique and control activities
- ✓ Week 4: Creating the right environment to implement controls successfully
- ✓ Week 5: Assessing the impact of internal on inherent risk to arrive at the residual risk
- ✓ Week 6: ICT controls: Impact of technology on internal controls
- ✓ Week 7: Implementing controls and change management
- ✓ Week 8: Monitoring the effectiveness of internal controls







# Week 7: Presenter



#### Ms Noeline Slogrove

[B Com, MBA, Post-grad Diploma in Risk, Fellow member of Inst. Directors, Member of IRMSA]



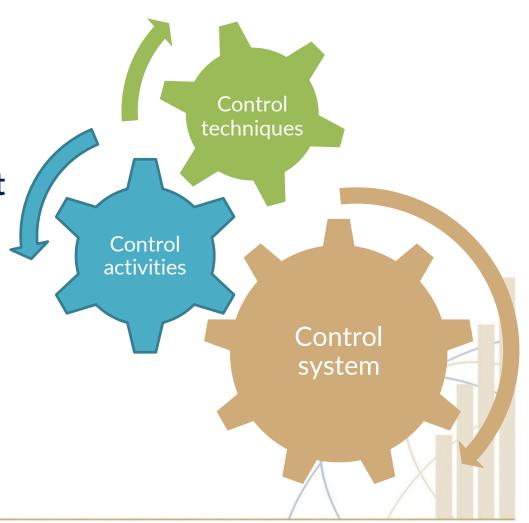
#### Week 7: Outline



✓ Control implementation

√ Change management

✓ Discussion of your questions



# **Control implementation**



- Control system: 5 interrelated components
- Requirements for implementation
- Practical aspects



# **Control implementation – control system**



# Quick recap of Week 1



#### 5 Interrelated components:

- Control environment
- Risk assessment
- Control activities
- Information and communication
- Monitoring

# **Control implementation - requirements**



Policies and procedures that help to ensure that officials carry out internal controls

Two elements:
Policy
Standard operating procedure

#### To be effective, control activities must:

- Be the proper control in the right place to address the risk involved
- Function consistently according to plan throughout the period
- Be cost-effective
- Be comprehensive, reasonable and directly relate to the control objectives

# **Control implementation - requirements**



recognise

these?

Policies and procedures that help to ensure that officials carry out internal controls

#### Complete the following activities:

Two elements:
Policy
Standard operating
procedure

- Risk assessment
- Link internal controls to the risks in the strategic and operational risk register
- Design controls to reach the control objectives
- Choose the correct control technique and control activities
- Create the right environment to implement controls successfully
- Assess the impact of inherent risk to arrive at the residual risk
- Assess the impact of technology on internal controls

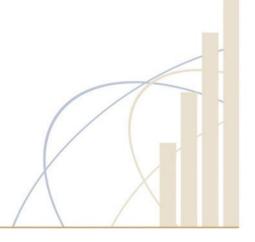


#### **Steps:**

1. Form the task team

Ensure buy-in from Council and Municipal Manager

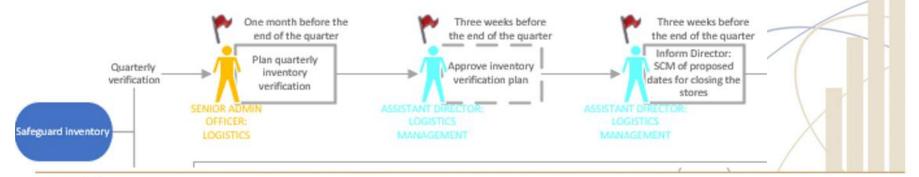
- 2. Do the homework
- 3. Plan implementation resources and timelines
- 4. Ensure awareness and obtain buy-in
- 5. Communication and training of those involved in the change
- 6. Change-over
- 7. Change management
- 8. Monitor implementation





#### 2. Do the homework:

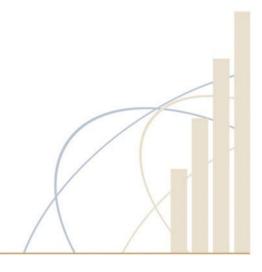
- Which sites or offices are affected?
- Which processes must change?
- Who is involved in the processes?
- Is new equipment or technology needed?
- What are the risks we are addressing?
- Which controls are currently in place?
- Which new controls must we implement?





#### 3. Plan implementation – resources and timelines:

- Who is available?
- Do you have the necessary expertise?
- Who are the champions in the various units?
- When is the best time? Consider important cycles in the units affected





#### 4. Awareness and buy-in:

- Common reasons why managers struggle to get buy-in
- **Blame:** No one wants to take it on, because if it doesn't work, they take the blame
- **Authority:** You may want to assign the problem to someone (or a team) to solve, but are they empowered to actually make the necessary changes?
- **Agreement:** Does your team agree it's an important problem? Do they see why it's a big problem now and will only get worse?
- **Pressure:** If your team has other major projects and tasks to complete, your "pet project" may be put off indefinitely.
- **Priority:** You may say it's important, but do your actions show it's the case?



#### 4. Awareness and buy-in:

- Workable solutions to counteract reasons why buy-in fail:
- Awareness campaigns: What is changing and why? When are the changes taking place? How are we affected?
- **Obtain input:** Involve the team in designing controls, policies and standard operating procedures
- Sufficient training: Exactly what changes in their day-to-day activities
- Communication channels: Who to contact with questions or obstacles

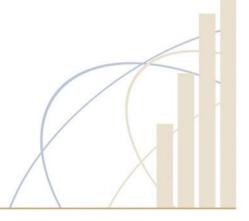


#### 5. Communication and training:

- Include in the plan
- Workshops, posters, e-mail channels, Whatsapp groups
- Videos on the intranet

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Recognise and reward employees for their new skills



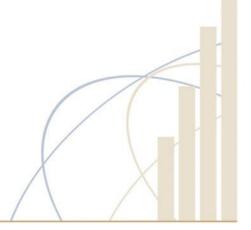


#### 6. Change-over:

- Clear communication channels
- Clear communication about expectations
- Be available for problem-solving

Recognise and reward employees for their new skills

7. Change management (See next section)





#### **Monitor implementation**

For controls to be always useful and effective, it is necessary to:

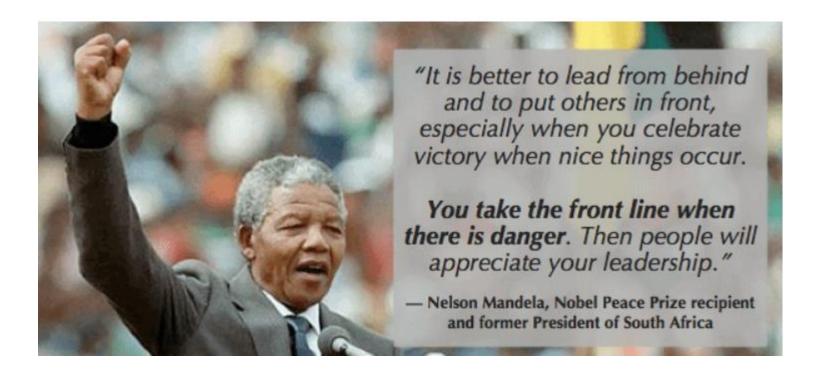
- Reassess the risks once a year
- Ensure compliance with new legislation
- Maintain up-to-date documentation
- Monitor the proper implementation of controls and monitoring
- Monitor risk mitigation projects
- Tracking incidents that occur and treating them as a source of improvement

Follow changes and adaptations with updated documentation and clear and effective communication

# Change management



- Principles of change management
- Create the culture



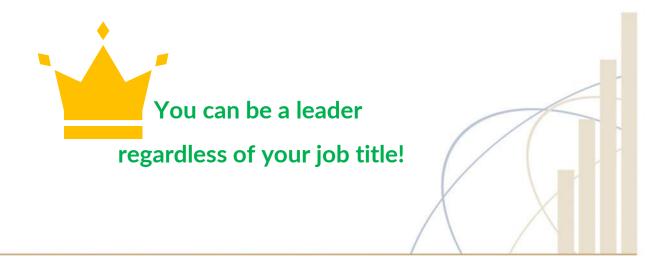
# Change management – Principles



#### Principles: It is about leadership

- Get your hands dirty
- Lead by example
- Use the power of repetition
- Give updates on progress and metrics
- Spread positivity

What if you can't do what you ask others to do?

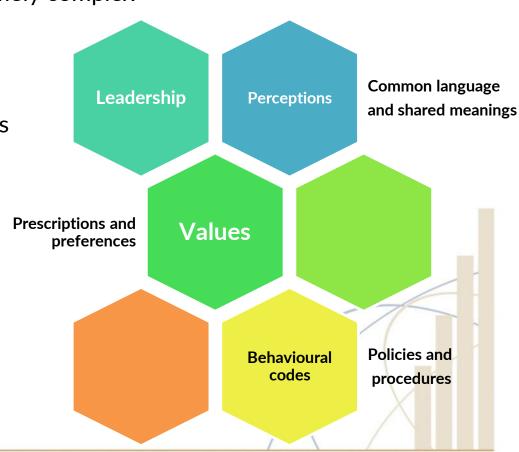


# Change management – Create the culture



#### Create the culture

- Organisational culture is extremely complex
  - Diverse people
  - Diverse skills
  - Diverse working conditions
  - Diverse views
  - Diverse personalities
  - Diverse ....



#### **Change management – Create the culture**



#### Create the culture

- Explore unwritten ground rules
- At this municipality, this is the way we do things for example:
  - It is not worth highlighting issues at our meetings, because nothing will get done in any case
  - The only time the manager speaks to any of us, is when something is wrong
  - The municipality talks about service delivery, but we know that they don't really mean it
  - We go through the motions with our managers, but as soon as they leave, we do things our way

# **Change management – Create the culture**



#### Create the culture

- Explore unwritten ground rules
- Reflect on your behaviour:
  - Around here, management has the authority to make decisions
  - In our municipality, management is approachable when you have an idea or a question
  - Around here, we care about each other and our teams. We pitch in together when needed and we keep out promises
  - Around here, we are friendly and professional with everyone that we come across
  - Around here, we all have our own jobs and responsibilities, but we are also aware of the bigger picture when it comes to goals and work as a team

# **Questions?**







# 5 Take-aways from this session



Policies and procedures are fundamental

Plan changes properly

Communication Is key

Contribute to the municipality's culture

You can be a leader regardless of your job title













