

Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee

Date: 24th June 2023

Report of: Chief Officer – Financial Services

Report to: Corporate Governance and Audit Committee

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

Brief summary

This report provides an assurance that the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee have discharged its duty in ensuring that the Committee complies with CIPFA's Position Statement: Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Policy.

Recommendations

The Corporate Governance and Audit Committee are requested to

- a) Note the assurance set out in this report that the Committee complies with CIPFA's Position Statement: Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Police; and
- b) Approve the draft annual report at Appendix A to this report and authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign on their behalf.

What is this report about?

- 1 This report sets out the draft annual report of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee for the 2022/23 municipal year.
- 2 In accordance with best practice published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), the report demonstrates how the committee has discharged its responsibilities.
- 3 The report demonstrates how the committee supports the Council's governance arrangements, and in doing so supports the Council in achieving its Best City Ambition and the three pillars of Inclusive Growth, Health and Wellbeing and Zero Carbon.

What impact will this proposal have?

- 4 The Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee reflects the work undertaken by the committee in the 2022/23 municipal year.

- 5 The report notes that assurances received to support the committee in carrying out the functions delegated to it in respect of the Annual Governance Statement and Statement of Accounts.
- 6 The report further notes those areas in which the work of the committee has, through robust challenge and critical consideration, added value to the Council's arrangements for governance, audit and risk.

How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

Health and Wellbeing Inclusive Growth Zero Carbon

- 7 The work undertaken by the committee provides assurance that arrangements for internal control support the delivery of the council's strategic objectives.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 8 The Monitoring Officer and S151 Officer have been sighted on this draft report, which has been compiled in consultation with members of the committee.

What are the resource implications?

- 9 The committee's work contributes directly by providing assurance that arrangements in respect of resources, procurement and value for money are fit for purpose, embedded, and routinely applied.
- 10 The report provides information to Council to the work undertaken to ensure the sustainable use of the Council's resources to deliver the strategic ambitions of the Council.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 11 The work undertaken by the committee provides assurance that there are arrangements in place for the management of risks which are appropriate, proportionate, monitored, and effective.

What are the legal implications?

- 12 S151 Local Government Act 1972 requires local authorities to "make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs". The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 provide that the local authority is responsible for ensuring "a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of its functions and the achievement of its aims and objectives; ensures that the financial and operations management of the authority is effective and includes effective arrangements for the management of risk".

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

13 None

How will success be measured?

14 The Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee will be received by Full Council.

What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?

15 The Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee reflects work undertaken in the 2022-23 municipal year.

Appendices

- Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee

Background papers

- None

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