

# Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Report of: Chief Officer – Financial Services

Report to: Full Council

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

## Brief summary

Full Council is charged with governance of the local authority and has appointed Corporate Governance and Audit Committee to carry out functions in this regard.

The attached Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee demonstrates how the Committee has discharged its responsibilities in accordance with best practice.

## Recommendations

- a) Member are requested to receive and consider the annual report reflecting the work of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee in the 2022-23 municipal year.

### What is this report about?

- 1 The Annual Report of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee, attached to this report, reflects the work undertaken by the Committee in the 2022-23 municipal year.

### What impact will this proposal have?

- 2 The work undertaken by Corporate Governance and Audit Committee throughout the municipal year supports its assessment of the internal control and risk environment. This in turn will inform the Committee's consideration and approval of the statutory Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for 2022-23.

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

Health and Wellbeing       Inclusive Growth       Zero Carbon

- 3 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

- 4 The Annual Report was compiled in consultation with active Members of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee in the 2022-23 municipal year.
- 5 The report was approved by Corporate Governance and Audit Committee at its meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

## What are the resource implications?

- 6 The work undertaken by Committee provides assurance that the Council's resources are used efficiently to deliver the Council's strategic objectives.

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

- 7 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?

- 8 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".
- 9 The work undertaken by the Committee provides confirmation for Full Council, as the body charged with governance, that arrangements in place are up to date, fit for purpose, communicated and embedded, monitored and routinely complied with.

## Options, timescales and measuring success

### What other options were considered?

10 None

### How will success be measured?

- 11 The work undertaken by the Committee will assist their consideration and approval of the Annual Governance Statement and the Council's accounts.

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

- 12 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 2022-23

## **Background papers**

- None