

GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Wednesday, 14 June 2023
Report Subject	Governance and Audit Committee Self-Assessment – Action Plan
Report Author	Internal Audit, Performance and Risk Manager
Type of Report	Assurance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In March 2023 a report was presented to the Governance and Audit Committee on the outcome of the Committee’s self-assessment.

This report provides Committee with a detailed action plan of how the findings in the self-assessment will be addressed. This action plan has been established by the Chair and the Vice Chair of the Committee.

The action plan for the self-assessment is detailed in Appendix A.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the Committee considers the action plan and reaches a decision on whether any further information is needed.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE SELF ASSESSMENT REPORT
1.01	<p>In November 2022, The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) published its revised publication on ‘Audit Committee – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities and Police’, with the aim of providing CIPFA’s view of best practice for Governance and Audit Committees following the introduction of the Local Government Elections (Wales) Act 2021.</p> <p>Within the guidance there were two separate assessments:</p> <p>1) Self-Assessment of Good Practice; and</p>

	<p>2) Evaluating the Impact and Effectiveness of the Governance and Audit Committee.</p> <p>Both assessments were used during the workshops and the findings can be found in Section 1 & 2 of Appendix A.</p>
1.02	<p>The Governance and Audit Committee is part of the governance framework of the Authority. It is therefore appropriate for the results of the self-assessment to be incorporated into the Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23 which reports on the overall governance arrangements within the Authority and will be published with the annual accounts.</p>
1.03	<p>In December 2022, the self-assessment was completed, and a report presented to the Governance and Audit Committee in January 2023.</p> <p>This report uses the outcome of the self-assessment workshop to produce a detailed action plan to address the findings. This is detailed within Appendix A.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	<p>None from the report itself. Resources may be required to address any actions or development needs identified.</p>

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	<p>Summary results from the facilitation workshop attended by the Governance and Audit Committee Members were compiled by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee.</p>

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	<p>The Governance and Audit Committee is part of the governance framework for the Authority. It therefore must function effectively to fulfil its role. This process allows the committee to assess how effective it is and take action to mitigate any deficiencies.</p>

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	<p>Appendix A – Governance and Audit Committee Self-Assessment Action Plan</p>

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>None.</p>

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7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Corporate Governance: the system by which local authorities direct and control their functions and relate to their communities. It is founded on the basic principles of openness and inclusivity, integrity and accountability together with the overarching concept of leadership. It is an inter-related system that brings together the underlying set of legislative requirements, governance principles and management processes.