

GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Wednesday, 10 th April 2024
Report Subject	Forward Work Programme
Report Author	Internal Audit, Performance and Risk Manager
Category	Advisory

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Governance and Audit Committee presents an opportunity for Members to determine the Forward Work Programme of the Committee of which they are Members. By reviewing and prioritising the Forward Work Programme, Members are able to ensure it is Member-led and includes the right issues. A copy of the Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix A for Members' consideration which has been updated following the last meeting.

The Committee is asked to consider, and amend where necessary, the Forward Work Programme for Governance and Audit Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

1	That the Committee considers the draft Forward Work Programme and approve/amend, as necessary.
2	That the Internal Audit, Performance and Risk Manager, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee, be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME
1.01	Items feed into a Committee's Forward Work Programme from a number of sources. Many items are standard every quarter, six months or annually, and Members can also suggest topics for review by the Committee. Items can also be referred by the Cabinet, County Council or Chief Officers.

1.02	<p>In identifying topics for future consideration, it is useful for a ‘test of significance’ to be applied. This can be achieved by asking a range of questions as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the review contribute to the Council’s priorities and/or objectives? 2. Is it an area of major change or risk? 3. Are there issues of concern in governance, risk management or internal control? 4. Is it relevant to the financial statements or financial affairs of the Council? 5. Is there new government guidance or legislation? 6. Is it prompted by the work carried out by Regulators/Internal Audit? 																
1.03	<p>Following the Committee meeting in January there have been some changes to the forward work programme. This is either due to new external regulatory reports being scheduled to be presented to Governance and Audit Committee or at the request of the report author to delay the report.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="316 748 1428 1151"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="316 748 874 860">Report Title</th> <th data-bbox="879 748 1139 860">Reason for Movement</th> <th data-bbox="1144 748 1294 860">Original Date</th> <th data-bbox="1299 748 1428 860">New Report Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 866 874 972">Audit Wales – Together we can - Community resilience and self-reliance Report</td> <td data-bbox="879 866 1139 972">New External Regulatory Report</td> <td data-bbox="1144 866 1294 972">-</td> <td data-bbox="1299 866 1428 972">June 2024</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 978 874 1084">Audit Wales – Use of performance information: Service user perspective and outcomes</td> <td data-bbox="879 978 1139 1084">New External Regulatory Report</td> <td data-bbox="1144 978 1294 1084">-</td> <td data-bbox="1299 978 1428 1084">June 2024</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 1090 874 1151">Audit Wales - Annual Plan</td> <td data-bbox="879 1090 1139 1151">Request to move the report</td> <td data-bbox="1144 1090 1294 1151">April 2024</td> <td data-bbox="1299 1090 1428 1151">July 2024</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Report Title	Reason for Movement	Original Date	New Report Date	Audit Wales – Together we can - Community resilience and self-reliance Report	New External Regulatory Report	-	June 2024	Audit Wales – Use of performance information: Service user perspective and outcomes	New External Regulatory Report	-	June 2024	Audit Wales - Annual Plan	Request to move the report	April 2024	July 2024
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2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
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2.01	None as a result of this report.
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3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
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3.01	Both the Chair and Vice-Chair were consulted prior to the meeting and publication of this report also constitutes consultation.
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4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
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4.01	None as a result of this report.
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5.00	APPENDICES
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5.01	Appendix A - Draft Forward Work Programme.
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6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>None.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Lisa Brownbill Internal Audit, Performance and Risk Manager</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 702231</p> <p>E-mail: lisa.brownbill@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>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.</p> <p>Risk Management - The process of identifying risks, evaluating their potential consequences, and managing them. The aim is to reduce the frequency of risk events occurring (wherever this is possible) and minimise the severity of their consequences if they occur. Threats are managed by a process of controlling, transferring or retaining the risk. Opportunities are managed by identifying strategies to maximise the opportunity or reward for the organisation.</p> <p>Internal Control - Appropriate procedures and processes are in place to mitigate any risk which may prevent the organisation from achieving its objectives and service delivery.</p> <p>Financial Management - The planning, organising, directing and control of the financial activities of the Council to ensure sufficient resources are available to delivery its intended outcomes.</p> <p>Audit Wales - Works to support the Auditor General as the public sector watchdog for Wales. They aim to ensure that the people of Wales know whether public money is being managed wisely and that public bodies in Wales understand how to improve outcomes.</p>