

# Governance and Audit Committee Development and Improvement Plan 2023/24 – November 2024

## Appendix B

Topic	Action	Rational	Responsible	Timescale	Progress RAG	Current Status
<b>Self-Assessment / Influencing</b>	1.1 Finish gaining feedback from key partners on what they want from GAC and how it could be more useful/effective. Use information to shape the way GAC operates i) Leader and Cabinet ii) Chief Executive iii) Chief Officer, Governance and COT iv) Internal Audit, Performance & Risk Manager v) Audit Wales	To improve GAC self-assessment and engagement with Flintshire's Leaders	Chair and Vice Chair	May-July 2023	<b>Amber</b>	Quarterly meetings with the Council Leader established  Questionnaires sent to Chairs of OSC  Further individual meetings to be established with Chairs / Vice Chairs of OSC and key officers
	1.2 Seek feedback from Chairs of Scrutiny on co-working arrangements to ensure good communications and complementary approaches to improvement. Establish ongoing comms system between GAC Chair and Chairs of Scrutiny	To improve mutual understanding and effective flow of information, especially where services may be giving cause for concern	Chair and Vice Chair	Following Annual General Meeting of the Council	<b>Red</b>	Individual meetings to be established between the Chair and Vice Chair of GAC and each OSC with the aim of improving relationships and understanding of each other's role
<b>Coverage of ToR and Assurance</b>	1.3 Programme additional reports to GAC to ensure ToR are covered, specifically including: - approaches to ensuring VfM - major projects and their governance	Perceived gaps at the moment	Internal Audit, Performance & Risk Manager	Programme in consultation with Chair and Vice Chair	<b>Amber</b>	Work programme reviewed on a regular basis  To consult with other service over major projects etc to ensure there is no duplication
	1.4 Continue to invite Responsible Officers to GAC where there are red IA reports or concerns re progress and invite Senior Risk Owners to GAC to update on the management of key risks.	Important to develop mature relationships with wide range of senior and middle managers given they are operationally responsible for implementation of improvement and risk management actions	Internal Audit, Performance & Risk Manager	Programme within FWP	<b>Green</b>	Officers are invited to GAC to update of red reports with concerns re progress

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	1.5 As part of the Corporate Self-Assessment workshop for members consider how VFM is being achieved	To ensure that the Council gets VFM from the arrangements are put in place	GAC members supported by Internal Audit, Performance & Risk Manager	As part of the CSA process	Green	This has been consider as part of the CSA workshop
<b>Effectiveness and Impact</b>	1.6 All GAC members to focus on identifying constructive and practical means of adding value and achieving improvement in matters considered	Core to GAC's role in gaining assurance and contributing to FCC improvement	All GAC members, plus Chair to prompt	Each meeting	Green	Ongoing
	1.7 Committee to meet prior to each meeting to discuss key issues.	Committee to tease out the key element / assurance they would like	All GAC members, plus Chair to prompt	Each meeting	Green	Commenced Sept 2024
	1.8 Highlight key points during the pre-briefing with the Chair / Vice Chair  Discuss with Committee how they with Red / Amber Red reports to be presented.	Committee to tease out the key element / assurance they would like	All GAC members, plus Chair to prompt	Each meeting	Green	Ongoing
<b>Learning and Development</b>	1.9 Continue pre GAC training sessions to ensure members are briefed ahead of major reports coming to GAC	Useful to have informal means of developing knowledge and skills in advance of agenda items- especially though not only for new members	Internal Audit, Performance & Risk Manager	Before each GAC meeting	Green	Ongoing
	1.10 In advance of next GAC self-assessment, evaluate knowledge, skills and training needs of GAC members, using the K and S framework from CIPFA guidance. Use this to frame updated Learning and Development Plan	Understanding of what GAC members have to offer, individually and collectively, should improve ability to question, challenge, support and escalate issues	Chair/Vice Chair supported by Internal Audit, Performance & Risk Manager	June - September 2023	Amber	Knowledge and skills matrix shared with members. Matrix to be returned and collated to identify any training needs.  New members to provide
	1.11 Ask Group Leaders to nominate members with the relevant skills.	Committee members been appointed or selected to ensure a committee membership that is knowledgeable and skilled	Chair support by Chief Officer, Governance	Prior to appointment of committee members	Green	New members have previously been members of the GAC and therefore possess skills and

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						understanding of the committee
<b>Annual Report/ Accountability</b>	1.12 Collate information on issues of concern to GAC and/or escalated to those in leadership/governance roles to ensure actions are followed through and feed into Annual Report	Not always easy to show GAC's impact as influence not always captured in written record. However, essential to gather issues pursued so as to demonstrate pro activity as part of GAC's accountability to Council	Chair/Vice Chair	After each meeting or at least quarterly	<b>Green</b>	Annual report identified the increase in actions / challenges raised by the GAC
	1.13 Linked to submission of Annual Report, Chair and Vice Chair of GAC to request meeting with Leader at least annually to ensure mutual briefing	Important to account to FCC's leader for GAC's work and to have the Leader's feedback to shape future arrangements	Chair	November 2023	<b>Green</b>	Quarterly meetings now take place with the Council Leader