

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Council

Date of meeting: 13 July 2023

Title: Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report 2022-23

Purpose of the report: To present the Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report

For: Information

Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member: Cllr. Matthew Vaux, Cabinet Member for Partnerships, Housing, Legal and Governance and Public Protection

Background:

The CIPFA Practical Guidance for Local Authorities & police (2022 edition) states that it is important that the Governance and Audit Committee is held to account on the extent to which it has fulfilled its purpose. This will include whether the Governance and Committee has:

- fulfilled its agreed terms of reference
- adopted recommended practice
- assessed its own effectiveness
- Assessed training needs
- Assessed the impact of the Governance and Committee on governance, risk and control within the Authority

At the Governance and Audit Committee meeting of 14th September 2017 it was agreed that the Governance and Audit Committee would publish an Annual Report providing an assessment on the effectiveness of the Governance and Audit Committee and to provide assurance that issues have been addressed and progressed.

The Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report is used to:

- a) Highlight the work carried out by the Governance and Audit Committee during the year;
- b) Show how the Governance and Audit Committee has made a difference;
- c) Set out the forward work programme for the year ahead; and
- d) Provide Self-assessment and assurance.

Current Position:

A report on the Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report 2022-23 was presented to the Governance and Audit Committee at its 21st of June 2023 meeting (link to report).

The Committee agreed to approve the draft Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report 2022-23, subject to the addition of the attendance details for the former Lay Member, Liam Hull, and the inclusion of the words 'not applicable' for meetings which took place outside the period of membership of Committee members. These changes have since been made to the report.

The Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report 2022-23 is attached at **Appendix 1**.

Wellbeing of Future Generations:	<p>Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why Summary: This report does not represent a change in policy or strategy Long term: Collaboration: Involvement: Prevention: Integration:</p>
Recommendation(s):	That Council notes the contents of the Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report 2022-23
Reasons for decision:	To gain assurances that effective arrangements are in place to manage the authority's financial affairs, risk management, internal control and corporate governance arrangements and that the authority's internal and external audit arrangements are adequate.

Overview and Scrutiny: 21/6/2023 Governance and Audit Committee meeting:
Policy Framework: n/a

Corporate Well-being Objectives: n/a

Finance and Procurement implications: None
Legal Implications: None

Staffing implications: None

Property / asset implications: None

Risk(s):	None
Statutory Powers:	Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011
Background Papers:	Report to the Governance and Audit Committee 21/6/2023: https://council.ceredigion.gov.uk/documents/s5169/Item%209%20Annual%20Report%20combined%20s.pdf?LLL=0
Appendices:	Appendix 1 - Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report 2022-23
Corporate Officer:	Lead Elin Prysor, Corporate Lead Officer: Legal & Governance (& Monitoring Officer)
Reporting Officer:	Harry Dimmack
Date:	22/06/2023