

Audit Committee

25th November 2019



Report of: Chair of Audit Committee

Title: **Audit Committees Half Yearly Report to Full Council - Draft**

Ward: N/A

Officer Presenting Report: Simba Muzarurwi, Chief Internal Auditor

Recommendation

The Committee consider the issues included in the draft report and approve the half yearly report to Full Council.

Summary

The report provides a summary of key matters arising from the work of the Audit Committee this year to date which should be highlighted to Full Council. This is the first time the Committee will provide an in-year update to Full Council.

The significant issues in the report are:

- Key areas from the work of the Committee this year to date are included in Section 2 of the attached report.



Policy

1. Audit Committee Terms of Reference.

Consultation

2. **Internal**
Audit Committee Members
3. **External**
None

Context

4. In line with the requirements of their Terms of Reference, the Audit Committee has historically provided an Annual Report to Full Council.
5. Discussions during Audit Committee effectiveness workshops identified that more timely updates to Full Council may enhance arrangements and it was decided that the Committee would provide a half yearly update of key matters arising from their work. A draft report is attached for consideration by the Committee.

Proposal

6. Committee Members review the draft half year report to Full Council to ensure it reflects the issues they feel should be brought to Full Council attention at this time.
7. The Committee approve the report for submission subject to any amendments required.

Other Options Considered

8. None

Risk Assessment

9. The assurances provided by Audit Committee to Full Council are a key part of the Council's governance framework. This report highlights potential areas where assurances require further monitoring by Audit Committee.

Public Sector Equality Duties

- 8a) Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following "protected characteristics": age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:
 - i) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under

the Equality Act 2010.

- ii) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to --
 - remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;
 - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);
 - encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- iii) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –
 - tackle prejudice; and
 - promote understanding.

8b) No equality impact anticipated from this report

Legal and Resource Implications

Legal

N/A

Financial

(a) Revenue – N/A

(b) Capital – N/A

Land/Property N/A

Human Resources N/A

Appendices:

Appendix A – Draft Audit Committee Half Year Report to Full Council.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

Audit Committee Papers.