



## **1 Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**

Apologies were received from Cllr Graham Wilson substituted by Cllr Alison Whelan.

No declarations of interest were made.

## **2 Chairs Announcements**

The recruitment timetable for the Independent Person is progressing with the aim that the advert should go out mid-February with the closing date mid-march. Shortlisting latest end of March, recruitment by end of April at the latest, ready for the first AGM in May.

The Chair had met with Elise Wilson, a member of the independent improvement board, to gain a perception of how things were going with the improvement journey and could report back positive feedback.

## **3 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting on 17 November 2023 were approved as an accurate record, and the action log noted.

## **4 Improvement framework report**

RESOLVED

- a) Note the progress made over November and December against stated areas of improvement identified by the External Auditor in June 2022 and Best Value Notice received in January 2023 as reported to the CA Board on 31 May 2023, set out in paragraphs 2.2 to 2.7.
- b) Note the proposed transition from the current Improvement plan to continuous improvement activity embedded across and down through the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority set out in paragraph 2.8.
- c) Note the intention to review the current remit and focus for the Independent Improvement Board following the delivery of stated areas of improvement identified by the External Auditor and the Best Value Notice set out in paragraph 2.9.
- d) Note the outcome of the recent Internal Audit review of the 'Project planning and delivery' improvement programme set out in paragraph 2.10

## **5 Corporate risk register**

RESOLVED

- a) To note the refreshed Corporate Risk December 2023 register report, risk dashboard and heat map
- b) To note the update on progress of the Risk Software implementation at a service level
- c) To note Monthly Corporate Management Team Risk register reviews

## **6 Internal Audit Tracker**

RESOLVED

- a) To note progress on the implementation of internal audit actions

**7 External Audit – Draft Audit Results and**

RESOLVED

- a) To note and comment on the report

**8 Statement of Accounts & Annual Governance Statement**

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):

- a) To approve the audited Statement of Accounts 2021/22
- b) To review the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22
- c) To authorise the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee to sign off any further immaterial changes required to the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for 2021/22 prior to publication

**9 Draft Financial Strategies**

RESOLVED

- a) To review and comment upon the Draft Capital, Investment and Treasury Management Strategies for 2024-25 and the draft 2024-25 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) statement

**10 Internal Audit – Progress Report January 2024**

RESOLVED

- a) To note the Internal Audit Report

**Code of Conduct Lessons Learnt**

**11 RESOLVED**

- a) To identify areas for further work which may include amendments to the code of conduct and/or hearings.
- b) To consider whether to write to the government and Committee on Standards in public to reconsider the law on sanctions.
- c) The Combined Authority Board Monitoring Officer to come back to the next meeting with a report on possible amendments to the Combined Authority Constitution

**12 Annual Complaints report and update complains against members 2023/2024**

RESOLVED

- a) The annual report on code of conduct complaints be reviewed and any areas for further work be identified.
- b) The Committee agreed that complaints and code of conduct report should be brought back to the committee in six months' time to review

**13 Review of Committee Arrangements**

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):

- A To note the outcome of the review of the arrangements for the Audit & Governance Committee following the completion of the questionnaire and workshop regarding options for changes following benchmarking with other Mayoral Combined Authority Audit & Governance Committees.

- B* To approve that there will be an annual review by Members of the Audit & Governance Committee of the arrangements for that committee in sufficient time for any proposed changes to be made in the following Municipal Year.
- C* To ask the Monitoring Officer to contact other Mayoral Combined Authorities with a view to establishing a forum for the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of their Audit & Governance Committees to discuss issues of mutual concern and benefit.

**14 Information Governance Update**

RESOLVED

- A* The Audit & Governance Committee is recommended to consider and note the contents of this report.

**15 Audit and Governance Work Programme**

RESOLVED

The Audit & Governance Committee is recommended to consider and note the contents of this report.

**16 Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 8 March 2024