



Report title: Audit and Governance Committee Draft Annual Report

To: Audit and Governance Committee

Meeting Date: 6 April 2021

Public report: Public Report

From: John Pye
Chair of Audit and Governance Committee

Recommendations: a) The Audit and Governance Committee is asked to comment on the draft Annual Report of the Chair of Audit and Governance Committee for 2020/21 (Appendix 1) before it is submitted Combined Authority Board.
b) Approve the draft report subject to agreed changes.

Voting arrangements: N/A

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Audit and Governance Committee has been in operation since the Combined Authority Board approved the membership and appointment of the Independent Person in May 2017. The Committee met eight times during the 2020/21 municipal year.
- 1.2 The Committee provides independent challenge and assurance of the adequacy of risk management, internal control including internal audit, anti-fraud and the financial reporting framework.
- 1.3 The Draft Annual Report of the Chair of Audit and Governance Committee is the work carried out by the Committee over the municipal year 2020/21 is at Appendix 1.

2. Background

- 2.1 It is recommended by relevant professional bodies that audit and governance committees should produce an annual report which details the work of the Committee for the Municipal Year. A draft annual report has been prepared for 2020/21 (Appendix 1).
- 2.2 The draft annual report shows:
 - Background to the Committee, its roles, responsibilities and membership;

- An overview and coverage of its remit including Internal Audit, Accounts and Financial Management, External Audit, Risk Management, Control Assurance, Corporate Governance, and Fraud and Irregularities;
- Training provided to ensure that suitable challenge and scrutiny is adopted.
- Records of complaints, Freedom of Information requests and attendance levels for the committee to consider.

2.3 The Committee is asked to comment on the draft report before it submitted by the Chair to the Combined Authority Board in July.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 None.

4. Legal Implications

4.1 None.

5. Appendices

5.2 Appendix 1 – Draft Annual Report