Council 21 May 2024

Annual Report of the Audit & Governance Committee 2023/24

Report by Executive Director of Resources / Director of Law & Governance

RECOMMENDATION

1. **The Council is RECOMMENDED to** note the contents of the Annual Report of the Audit & Governance Committee 2023/24.

Executive Summary

2. The Audit & Governance Committee Annual Report 2023/24 is attached at Appendix 1. The Annual Report contains information relating to the work of Audit & Governance Committee during 2023/24. It is presented to Council, by the Chair of the Audit & Governance Committee, Councillor Roz Smith.

Annual Report

- 3. Within recommended practice for Audit Committees (CIPFA, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy Audit Committees Practical Guidance 2022), the committee should report on an annual basis to Council on how the committee has discharged its responsibilities.
- 4. The Annual Report 2023/24 was approved at the March Audit & Governance Committee.

Financial Implications

5. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Comments checked by: Lorna Baxter, Executive Director of Resources, lorna.baxter@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Legal Implications

6. There are no direct legal implications arising from this report although it should be noted that the effective operation of the Audit and Governance Committee plays an important role in the Council's compliance with its Code Of Corporate Governance based upon the CIPFA & SOLACE guidance and framework

"Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework 2016 Edition."

Specifically principles A) Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law and (G) Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability.

Comments checked by: Anita Bradley, Director of Law & Governance anita.bradley@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Staff Implications

7. There are no staffing implications arising from this report.

Equality & Inclusion Implications

8. There are no equality and inclusion implications arising from this report.

Sustainability Implications

9. There are no sustainability implications arising from this report.

Risk Management

10. There are no risk management implications arising from this report.

Lorna Baxter, Executive Director of Resources Anita Bradley, Director of Law & Governance

Annex: Annual Report of the Audit and Governance Committee

2023/24.

Background papers: None.

Contact Officer: Sarah Cox, Chief Internal Auditor,

sarah.cox@oxfordshire.gov.uk

May 2024.