

Joint Governance Committee

Ward(s) affected: All

Report of Director of Transformation & Governance

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Lead Councillor responsible: GBC: Cllr Bigmore & WBC: Cllr Follows

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## Formal Review of the Inter-Authority Agreement

### Executive Summary

The terms of reference of the Joint Governance Committee include: '(i) To undertake periodically a formal review (at least once every 12 months) of the inter-authority agreement, ensuring it continues to be fit for purpose and recommending to both Full Councils any changes required.' This report asks the committee for formally review the inter-authority agreement.

### Recommendation to Committee

That the Committee:

1. Formally review the inter-authority agreement to ensure it continues to be fit for purpose.
2. Recommend to both Full Councils any changes required.

### Reason(s) for Recommendation:

It is a requirement of the Joint Governance Committee to periodically review the inter-authority agreement.

**Is the report (or part of it) exempt from publication?** (delete as appropriate)

No

### 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The Joint Government Committee's terms of reference include a requirement to undertake periodically a formal review (at least once every 12 months) of the inter-authority agreement (IAA), ensuring it continues to be fit for purpose and recommending to both Full Councils any changes required.

## **2. Strategic Priorities**

- 2.1 This report supports the Council's Mission of being a trusted, efficient, innovative, and transparent Council that listens and responds quickly to the needs of our community.

## **3. Background**

- 3.1 The Joint Governance Committee was created in April 2022 by resolutions of both Council's following the Inter Authority Agreement Joint Working Group's consideration of and approval of the IAA Heads of Terms. The IAA Heads of Terms are contained at Appendix 1 to this report.
- 3.2 Drafting of the IAA, based on the Heads of Terms, took place over the period June to August 2022 with the assistance of an external specialist solicitor. The agreement was formally executed and sealed by both Councils in September 2022 under the delegated authority of Guildford's Lead Legal Specialist and Waverley's Borough Solicitor. The IAA is contained at Appendix 2 to this report.
- 3.3. The IAA is in respect of the joint management team (JMT). The JMT structure was implemented on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 and comprises the Joint Chief Executive, three Joint Strategic Directors and twelve Joint Executive Heads of Service including the statutory roles of s.151 officer and Monitoring Officer.
- 3.4 Members are asked to consider and formally review the JMT IAA. If Members consider the JMT IAA is no longer fit for purpose they should recommend to both full Councils any changes required.
- 3.5 Officers' views are that the JMT IAA remains fit for purpose at this stage of the collaboration.

## **4. Consultations**

- 4.1 There is no requirement for consultation.

## **5. Key Risks**

- 5.1 The committee's terms of reference include undertaking periodically a formal review (at least once every 6 months) of the collaboration risk assessment, reviewing current and target impact and likelihood scores and making any changes to the list of risks and mitigating actions. There is a separate report to this committee on the collaboration risk assessment.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## **7. Legal Implications**

- 7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

**8. Human Resource Implications**

8.1 There are no direct human resource implications arising from this report.

**9. Equality and Diversity Implications**

9.1 This duty has been considered in the context of this report and it has been concluded that there are no equality and diversity implications arising directly from this report.

**10. Climate Change/Sustainability Implications**

10.1 There are no relevant climate change/sustainability implications.

**11. Summary of Options**

11.1 There are no other options other than those detailed in this report.

**12. Conclusion**

12.1 The committee is asked to formally review the JMT inter-authority agreement to ensure it continues to be fit for purpose.

12.2 Recommend to both Full Councils any changes required.

**13. Background Papers**

None

**14. Appendices**

Appendix 1 – JMT IAA Heads of Terms

Appendix 2 – JMT IAA

Please ensure the following service areas have signed off your report. Please complete this box and do not delete.

<b>Service</b>	<b>Sign off date</b>
<i>Finance / S.151 Officer</i>	<i>NA</i>
<i>Legal / Governance</i>	<i>S.Rix 17.11.2022</i>
<i>HR</i>	<i>NA</i>
<i>Equalities</i>	<i>NA</i>
<i>Lead Councillor</i>	<i>21.11.2022</i>

<i>CMT</i>	<i>NA</i>
<i>Executive Liaison</i>	<i>NA</i>
<i>Committee Services</i>	<i>NA</i>