

Corporate Governance and Standards Committee Report

Ward(s) affected: n/a

Report of Joint Strategic Director: Transformation and Governance

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Corporate Governance & Standards Committee Annual Report: 2021-22

Executive Summary

Following receipt of the KPMG internal audit report on the effectiveness of the Committee, which was considered on 24 March 2022, one of the recommendations was that the Committee should report at least annually to the Council on its activities and an assessment of its performance in discharging its responsibilities as defined in the Committee's terms of reference.

The first of these annual reports, for the municipal year 2021-22, is attached as Appendix 1.

Recommendation to Committee

The Committee is asked to review its annual report for 2021-22 and recommend its adoption by full Council.

Reason for Recommendation:

To ensure that the Committee is accountable for its work to the full Council

Is the report (or part of it) exempt from publication? No

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the Committee to review its annual report for the 2021-22 municipal year and commend its adoption by the full Council at its next ordinary meeting.

2. Strategic Priorities

- 2.1 The contents of the report are consistent with the following Values set out in the Council's Strategic Framework (2021-2025):

- We will listen to the views of residents and be open and accountable in our decision-making.
- We will deliver excellent customer service.
- We will spend money carefully and deliver good value for money services.
- We will ensure that our councillors and staff uphold the highest standards of conduct.

3. Background

- 3.1 Following receipt of the KPMG internal audit report on the effectiveness of the Committee, which was considered on 24 March 2022, one of the recommendations was that the Committee should report at least annually to the Council on its activities and an assessment of its performance in discharging its responsibilities as defined in the Committee's terms of reference.
- 3.2 The first of these annual reports, for the municipal year 2021-22, is attached for the Committee's consideration, as Appendix 1.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications in respect of this report

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 Whilst production of an annual report on the activities of the committee is not a legal requirement, it is recognised as best practice. There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

6. Human Resource Implications

- 6.1 There are no direct human resource implications in respect of this report.

7. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 7.1 Public authorities are required to have due regard to the aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty (Equality Act 2010) when making decisions and setting policies. 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 it.

8. Climate Change/Sustainability Implications

- 8.1 There are no direct climate change/sustainability implications arising from this report.

9. Summary of Options

- 9.1 The Committee can either refer the Annual Report, as drafted, to full Council, or amend it as appropriate before it is referred to full Council.

10. Background Papers

None

11. Appendices

Appendix 1: Draft Annual Report of the Corporate Governance & Standards Committee 2021-22