

Council 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 Corporate Governance & Standards Committee, which was considered at the Committee's meeting 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.

The Committee considered its first annual report at its meeting held on 19 January 2023 and commended it to the Council for adoption.

Recommendation to Council

The Council is asked to consider and adopt the annual report of the Corporate Governance & Standards Committee for 2021-22.

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 Council to consider and adopt the annual report of the Corporate Governance & Standards Committee for the 2021-22 municipal year.

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 Corporate Governance & Standards Committee, which was considered by the Committee 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 Council'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. Background Papers

None

10. Appendices

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