

Subject	Audit and Governance Committee Annual Report 2023/24	Status	For Publication
Report to	Audit and Governance Committee	Date	07 March 2024
Report of	Clerk Head of Governance		
Equality Impact Assessment	Not Required	Attached	No
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1 **Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To secure approval for the Committee's annual report on its work as part of the process of providing assurance underlying the preparation of the Annual Governance Statement.
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2 **Recommendations**

- 2.1 Members are recommended to:
- a. **Approve the Annual Report of the Audit and Governance Committee for 2023/24 as attached at Appendix A; and**
 - b. **Delegate to the Head of Governance approval to update the Annual Report for publication to reflect the attendance at and outcomes of this meeting and the final outcomes of internal audit reviews completed by the end of the year.**
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3 **Link to Corporate Objectives**

- 3.1 This report links to the delivery of the following corporate objectives:

Effective and Transparent Governance

To uphold effective governance showing prudence and propriety at all times.

It is recognised as good practice for an Audit and Governance Committee to produce an annual report setting out how its activities have addressed the various elements of the duties of an Audit and Governance Committee during the year. This contributes to the provision of assurance as part of the preparation of the Annual Governance Statement.

4 Implications for the Corporate Risk Register

4.1 The actions outlined in this report demonstrate the mitigations in place to address the identified risks around weaknesses in the overall governance and control framework.

5 Background and Options

5.1 The Audit and Governance Committee has a central role in the processes for the production of the Authority's Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and a number of the functions which it performs are a key part of the provision of assurance which underlies the process of producing the AGS. In order to provide assurance that the Committee is fully meeting its responsibilities it is good practice for an Annual Report on the Committee's work to be produced.

5.2 A draft Annual Report on the Committee's work during the 2023/24 Municipal Year is attached for approval at Appendix A.

5.3 The report will be updated to reflect the activity undertaken at this meeting. Members are also advised to note that Appendix C within the report shows the results of internal audit reviews for 2023/24 and permission is requested for officers to update this table with results of further reviews completed by the end of the year to reflect the outturn position on the level of assurance provided.

5.4 Following these updates, the report will be published on the Authority's website and will form part of the evidence base for the production of the Annual Governance Statement.

6 Implications

6.1 The proposals outlined in this report have the following implications:

Financial	None
Human Resources	None
ICT	None
Legal	None
Procurement	None

Sarah Norman

Jo Stone

Clerk

Head of Governance

Background Papers	
Document	Place of Inspection