

Corporate Policy and Resources Committee



20 April 2022

Title	Internal Audit Review of the Committee System
Purpose of the report	To note
Report Author	Internal Audit
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Exempt	Not applicable
Exemption Reason	Not applicable
Corporate Priority	Service Delivery
Recommendations	Committee is asked to note the report
Reason for Recommendation	Not applicable

1. Summary of the report

- 1.1 This audit report sets out the summarised findings from a planned Internal Audit review (2021/22) in respect of the Committee System.
- 1.2 The objective of the audit was to consider the robustness of the new Committee system implemented in May 2021. Assess in terms of delivering governance objectives around transparency and accountability etc. and enabling strengthened decision making.
- 1.3 Given that the Committee system of governance is integral to council business and the decision-making process, collective corporate responsibility and ownership will assist addressing the risks, issues and recommendations raised in this report.

2. Key issues

- 2.1 The audit review established that the implementation of the key objectives (as defined at the outset of the project) of Accountability, Credibility, Transparency, Collaboration and Timeliness are not adequately established or fully integrated into the new Committee system.
- 2.2 It is acknowledged that safeguards and wider initiatives are in the process of being put in place to help address the challenges being presented by the new Committee System.
- 2.3 The Internal Audit Summary Report set out at Appendix 1 details the areas of good practice, risks and issues requiring attention. Set out at Appendix 2 are

the Internal Audit recommendations where improvements to the related control process is deemed necessary in managing the associated risks.

3. Options analysis and proposal

3.1 To note the contents of the Internal Audit Summary Report (Appendix 1) and the recommendations raised (Appendix 2).

4. Financial implications

4.1 There are no financial implications.

5. Other considerations

5.1 There are no further considerations to be taken into account.

6. Equality and Diversity

6.1 This does not have any direct equality and diversity impacts.

7. Sustainability/Climate Change Implications

7.1 There are no sustainability / climate change issues.

8. Timetable for implementation

8.1 This report is for noting. There is no further action to be taken.

Background papers: There are none.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Internal Audit Summary Report

Appendix 2 – Committee System Recommendations