

# WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

18 July 2024

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**Report Title**                      **Audit & Governance Committee – Annual Report 2023-24**

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## Contributors/Checkers/Approvers

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## List of Appendices

### **Appendix A – Audit & Governance Committee Annual Report 2023-24**

#### **1. Purpose of Report**

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1.1. To provide a report on the activities of the Audit & Governance Committee during 2023-24.

#### **2. Executive Summary**

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2.1. It is good practice for the audit committees of public sector organisations to report annually on their work to the relevant governing body (i.e. full Council), and for such reports to be public.

#### **3. Recommendation**

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3.1 It is recommended that full Council considers and notes the Audit & Governance Committee's annual report for 2023-24, which is attached as Appendix A, which was endorsed by the Audit & Governance Committee at their meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

#### **4. Reason for Recommendation**

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4.1 To ensure compliance with the practice and principles for audit committees set out in the CIPFA Position Statement for Audit Committees, which recommends that audit committees should produce an annual public report on their work.

## **5. Report Background**

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- 5.1 This report at Appendix A summarises the work of the Audit & Governance Committee during 2023-24, and the improvements being made to further improve compliance with the CIPFA Position Statement for Audit Committees.
- 5.2 These improvements include the appointment of two independent members to the Committee, for which approval is being sought this same council meeting.
- 5.3 Also, the terms of reference of the Audit & Governance Committee have been reviewed and updated, and will come to a future Council meeting for approval once they have been considered by the Democracy & Standards Committee.

## **6. Issues and Choices**

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- 6.1 Council is asked to consider and note the annual report attached as Appendix A.

## **19 Implications (including financial implications)**

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### **7.1 Resources and Financial**

- 7.1.1 There are no resource or financial implications arising directly from this report.

### **7.2 Legal**

- 7.2.1 There are no specific legal implications associated with this report.

### **7.3 Risk**

- 7.3.1 There are no risks arising from this report.

### **7.4 Consultation**

- 7.4.1 None required.

### **7.5 Climate Impact**

- 7.5.1 None identified.

### **7.6 Community Impact**

- 7.6.1 None identified.

### **7.7 Communications**

- 7.7.1 The report will be publicly available with the Council meeting agenda papers.

## **8. Background Papers**

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8.1 None.