



Meeting GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

Date Thursday 21 July 2022 (commencing at 2.00 pm)

**membership**

**COUNCILLORS**

Philip Owen (Chairman)  
Johno Lee (Vice-Chairman)

Richard Butler  
Bethan Eddy  
Errol Henry JP  
Andy Meakin - Apologies  
Michael Payne - Apologies

Sue Saddington  
Helen-Ann Smith - Apologies  
Roger Upton  
Daniel Williamson

**SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

Councillor Anne Callaghan BEM for Councillor Michael Payne  
Councillor Francis Purdue-Horan for Councillor Helen-Ann Smith

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Glen Bicknell  
Heather Dickinson  
Richard Elston  
Simon Lacey  
Keith Palframan  
Nigel Stevenson  
Jo Toomey

Chief Executive's Department

Sue Batty

Adult Social Care and Health

Marion Clay  
Jill Norman

Children and Young People

**1. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 9 June 2022, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from:

- Councillor Meakin (medical)
- Councillor Payne (other reasons)

- Councillor Smith (other reasons)

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

None.

### **4. UPDATE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN DECISIONS (MAY 2022 TO JUNE 2022)**

The report set out information about three complaints against the Council where fault was found by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions of officers and seek assurance about actions put in place from the relevant departments regarding those complaints.

#### **RESOLVED: 2022/031**

That the findings of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman be noted and that lessons learned and actions taken in response to the findings be welcomed.

### **5. ANNUAL FRAUD REPORT**

During discussions, Members:

- Were given examples of processes to prevent offences of fraud and reporting arrangements for any attempted fraud
- Asked about measures to prevent pension fraud both in respect of recipients who had emigrated as well as those who lived in the country

#### **RESOLVED: 2022/032**

That the contents of the Annual Fraud Report 2021/22 be noted.

### **6. INTERNAL AUDIT TERM 3 PROGRESS REPORT AND TERM 2 PLAN 2022-23**

#### **RESOLVED: 2022/033**

- 1) That the outcome of the Internal Audit work carried out in Term 3 be noted.
- 2) That the planned coverage of Internal Audit's work in Term 2 of 2022/23 be progressed to help deliver assurance to the Committee in priority areas.

### **7. INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS**

#### **RESOLVED: 2022/034**

- 1) That the issues surrounding the accounting treatment of infrastructure assets be noted.

- 2) That authority to approve amendments to the accounting policies for 2021/22 regarding infrastructure assets in line with the updated Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom be delegated to the Section 151 Officer.

## **8. WORK PROGRAMME**

### **RESOLVED: 2022/035**

That the work programme be agreed.

The meeting closed at 2.31 pm.

CHAIRMAN