



## Report of the Chair of the Governance and Audit Committee

Council – 1 September 2022

### Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report 2021/22

<b>Purpose:</b>	This report provides the Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report for the 2021/22 municipal year.
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	None
<b>Consultation:</b>	Legal, Finance and Access to Services.
<b>Report Authors:</b>	Paula O'Connor, Simon Cockings, Jeremy Parkhouse
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Ben Smith
<b>Legal Officer:</b>	Debbie Smith
<b>Access to Services Officer:</b>	Rhian Millar
<b>For Information</b>	

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report for the 2021/22 Municipal Year is attached in Appendix 1. As the Chair of the Committee, I am pleased to present this report prepared by the Chief Auditor and Democratic Services that reflects on the work of the Governance & Audit Committee

#### 2. Integrated Assessment Implications

- 2.1 The Council is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
  - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage
- Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language
- Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
- Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

2.1.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'well-being goals'.

2.1.2 Our Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process ensures we have paid due regard to the above. It also takes into account other key issues and priorities, such as poverty and social exclusion, community cohesion, carers, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and Welsh language.

2.2 The completion of the Integrated Impact Assessment Screening revealed that:

- The Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report has a low positive impact across all groups.
- It has been subject to consultation with Legal, Access to Services and the Chair of the Governance and Audit Committee.
- All Well-being of Future Generations Act considerations are positive and any risks identified are low.
- The overall impact of the Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report is positive as it will support the Authority in its requirement to protect public funds.

### **3. Financial Implications**

3.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

### **4. Legal Implications**

4.1 Part of the role of the Governance and Audit Committee as set out by the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 is to make reports and recommendations in relation to the authority's financial affairs, including an assessment of the risk management and corporate government arrangements and the adequacy and effectiveness of those arrangements.

**Background Papers:** None

**Appendices:** Appendix 1 - Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report 2021/22  
Appendix 2 – Integrated Impact Assessment