

**REPORT TITLE: Corporate Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report**

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Corporate Governance and Audit Committee</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> August 2025</b>
<b>Cabinet Member</b> (if applicable)	<b>Cllr Nosheen Dad</b>
<b>Key Decision Eligible for Call In</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<p><b>Purpose of Report:</b> This report sets out a summary of the work undertaken by the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee during 2024/25. It also provides assurance that the Committee complies with the CIPFA's Position Statement: Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Police.</p>	
<p><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <p>The Corporate Governance and Audit Committee is requested to: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Note the assurances set out in this report that the Committee complies with CIPFA's Position Statement: Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Police; and</li> <li>2) Approve the draft Annual Report at Appendix A to this report for onward submission to Council.</li> </ol> <p><b>Reasons for Recommendations</b></p> <p>In accordance with best practice published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), this report demonstrates how the Committee has discharged its responsibility.</p>	
<p><b>Resource Implications:</b></p> <p>There are no resource implications.</p>	
<b>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> &amp; name</b>	<b>Rachel Spencer-Henshall 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?</b>	<b>Samantha Lawton 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>

**Electoral wards affected: Not Applicable**

**Ward councillors consulted: Not Applicable**

**Public or private: Public**

**Has GDPR been considered?** There are no GDPR implications

**1. Executive Summary**

This report sets out the draft annual report of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee for the 2024/25 municipal year

**2. Information required to take a decision**

The report demonstrates how the Committee supports the Council's governance and audit arrangements, and in doing so supports the Council to deliver the vision and priorities set out in the Council Plan.

**3. Implications for the Council**

**3.1 Council Plan**

Strong, effective corporate governance and audit assurance underpins the work of the Council in delivering all of its priorities outlined in the Council Plan.

**3.2 Financial Implications**

Not applicable.

**3.3 Legal Implications**

Not applicable.

**3.4 Other (eg Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)**

Not applicable.

**4. Consultation**

Not applicable.

**5. Engagement**

Not applicable.

**6. Options**

Not applicable.

**6.1 Options considered**

Not applicable.

**6.2 Reasons for recommended option**

Not applicable.

**7. Next steps and timelines**

Subject to approval by the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee, the Annual Report will be considered at Council.

- 8. Contact officer**  
Nicola Sylvester, Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer. 01484 221000
- 9. Background Papers and History of Decisions**  
None
- 10. Appendices**  
Appendix A Corporate Governance and Audit Committee Activity – 2024-25  
Appendix B Committee Self Evaluation 2024-25
- 11. Service Director responsible**  
Samantha Lawton – Service Director – Legal Governance and Commissioning.