

COMMITTEE	GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
DATE	14 DECEMBER 2023
TITLE	IMPELEMENTING THE DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEE
PURPOSE OF REPORT	TO PRESENT AN UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTING THE COMMITTEE'S PREVIOUS DECISIONS
AUTHOR	DEWI MORGAN, HEAD OF FINANCE
ACTION	FOR INFORMATION

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline how Council departments have responded to the decisions of the Governance and Audit Committee, so that members can receive assurance that their decisions are being addressed.
- 1.2 This contributes to reassuring members that the Council's governance is operating effectively.
- 1.3 This item is an opportunity for all members of the Governance and Audit Committee to consider the decisions made. Where the action has been completed, or where further action was not necessary, the line is removed from the table after the Committee has considered the matter.

2. DECISIONS SINCE ESTABLISHING THE NEW COUNCIL (MAY 2022)

Meeting of 17 November 2022

Item	Decision	Update
COMPLAINTS AND SERVICE IMPROVEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To accept that the Council's arrangements and performance in relation to dealing with complaints and service improvements are extremely effective. • That the report, in future, will be submitted to the Governance and Audit Committee prior to the Cabinet. <p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To include an observation on the positive impact that complaints can have on the Council's performance. • To include a summary of the main fields / developmental fields that receive complaints • Categorise or set out a wider context for the departments that receive the majority of the complaints, in order to understand the circumstances • The Chair to revisit the Committee's responsibilities - should there be an overview of 'all Council departments' (including Care Services and Education that have their own statutory arrangements)? 	<p>The latest Annual Report for 2022/23 was presented to the Governance and Audit Committee on 7 September 2023 and to the Cabinet on 19 September 2023.</p>

Meeting of 9 February 2023

Item	Decision	Update
<p>UPDATE ON THE REPORTS RECENTLY PUBLISHED BY AUDIT WALES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To accept the report and the managers' response to the recommendations in 'Arrangements for Responding to the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021' • To present a report in six months' time to update the Committee with regard to transferring the functions of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board to an empowered sub-committee of the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee, to streamline governance and avoid duplication between both bodies • To accept the report and the managers' response to the recommendations in 'Update on Decarbonisation Progress' 	<p>In respect of transferring the functions of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board to an empowered sub-committee of the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee, the project is progressing at a regional level. The target date of transfer is 1 April 2024.</p>
<p>OUTPUT OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT SECTION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To accept the report • To support the actions that have already been agreed with the relevant services • To request an update from the Audit on Taxi Safety (limited assurance level) • That the matter of not implementing regulatory procedures in Care Homes should be referred to the Care Scrutiny Committee. 	<p>Taxi Safety is the subject of a subsequent audit this year. Follow up work was completed during September and the report finalised on October 4th 2023.</p> <p>Care Homes item was considered at the Care Scrutiny Committee's Annual Workshop on 09/05/23. The item was made a priority by programming it for the 23/11/23 meeting on the 2023/24 draft work programme. Follow up work continues as 3 other Homes are to be fully audited.</p> <p>14/12/23 update: The following are reported to the Committee on 14 December 2023; Plas Maesincla and Plas Ogwen homes along with a follow up on Hafod Mawddach, Bryn Blodau and Plas Gwilym. A draft report has been published for Cefn Rhodyn.</p>

Meeting of 25 May 2023

Item	Decision	Update
OUTPUT OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT SECTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To accept the report. To support the actions that have already been agreed with the relevant services. To refer the 3 limited fields to the Improvement Working Group. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Planning – Communication Arrangements Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Measures Smallholdings 	Due to long-term sickness absence in the Internal Audit Service, the Controls Improvement Working Group has not yet met.
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HEAD OF INTERNAL AUDIT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To accept the report in accordance with the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards for the 2022/23 financial year. To re-establish the Controls Improvement Working Group. 	See above regarding the Controls Improvement Working Group

Meeting of 12 October 2023

Item	Decision	Update
CYNGOR GWYNEDD'S ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR 2022-23	<p>To accept and approve the statement for the Council Leader and the Chief Executive to sign the statement.</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a need to consider service continuity - impact of one field on another A suggestion together with the annual statement, that a mid-year report is submitted to the Committee to give an update of the situation. 	No further action.
SAVINGS OVERVIEW: PROGRESS REPORT ON REALISING SAVINGS SCHEMES	<p>To accept the report and note the situation and relevant risks in the context of the Savings Overview.</p> <p>Note: To recommend to the Cabinet that detailed challenge was required on unrealised schemes - need to ensure regular review of those schemes.</p>	No further action.

REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 - END OF August 2023 REVIEW	<p>1. To accept the report and note the situation and relevant risks in the context of the budgets of the Council and its departments</p> <p>2. Agree with the recommendation to the Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To transfer of £3.275k of underspend on corporate budgets to the Council's Financial Strategy Reserve. • Work had already been commissioned by the Chief Executive to have a better understanding of the exceptional overspend by the Adults, Health and Well-being Department setting a clear programme in response to the situation. <p>To note that there was significant overspend by the Adults, Health and Well-being Department, Education Department, Highways, Engineering and YGC Department and the Environment Department.</p>	No further action.
CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24 - END OF AUGUST 2023 REVIEW	To accept the report and note the situation and risks in the context of the Council's capital programme.	No further action.
TREASURY MANAGEMENT QUARTERLY UPDATE	To accept the report for information.	No further action.
AUDIT WALES REPORTS	To accept the report Note: Need to consider the procedure for the work of the Governance and Audit Committee to inform the Scrutiny system.	No further action.
INTERNAL AUDIT OUTPUT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To accept the report on the work of Internal Audit for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023 • To support the actions that have already been agreed with the relevant services 	No further action.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Governance and Audit Committee is asked to consider the contents of the tables above and to offer comments.