

DECISION RECORD OF A MEETING OF THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON THURSDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 10:00.

Present

Gareth Chapman – Chairperson (lay member)

S J Bletsoe
M Hughes

C Davies
A Williams

RM Granville
M Williams

SJ Griffiths

Lay Members:

B Olorunnisola

Apologies for Absence:

A Bagley

Officers:

Carys Lord	Chief Officer - Finance, Performance & Change
Deborah Exton	Deputy Head of Finance
Nigel Smith	Group Manager - Chief Accountant
Rachel Freitag	Audit Wales
Simon Roberts	Senior Fraud Investigator
Andrew Wathan	Head of the Regional Internal Audit Service
Joan Davies	Deputy Head of Regional Internal Audit Service
Alex Rawlin	Corporate Policy & Public Affairs Manager
Rachel Keepins	Democratic Services Manager
Mike Pitman	Technical Support Officer – Democratic Services
Stephen Griffiths	Democratic Services Officer – Committees
Oscar Roberts	Business Administrative Apprentice – Democratic Services

Title of Report	Approval of Minutes
Decision Made	The Minutes of the meeting on 26 July 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record.
Date Decision Made	28 September 2023
Personal or Prejudicial Interests Disclosed	None

Title of Report	Governance and Audit Committee Action Record
Decision Made	The Committee noted the Action Record and provided comments, as appropriate.
Date Decision Made	28 September 2023
Personal or Prejudicial Interests Disclosed	None

Title of Report	Audit Wales Governance and Audit Committee Reports
Decision Made	The Committee noted the Audit Wales Governance and Audit Committee Report at Appendix A.
Date Decision Made	28 September 2023
Personal or Prejudicial Interests Disclosed	None

Title of Report	Code of Corporate Governance
Decision Made	Governance and Audit Committee considered and, subject to some minor amendments, approved the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.
Date Decision Made	28 September 2023
Personal or Prejudicial Interests Disclosed	None

Title of Report	Ethical Investment Policy
Decision Made	The Governance and Audit Committee considered the Ethical Investment Policy and agreed its inclusion in future Treasury Management Strategies.
Date Decision Made	28 September 2023
Personal or Prejudicial Interests Disclosed	None

Title of Report	Progress Against the Internal Audit Risk Based Plan 2023-24
Decision Made	Members of the Committee noted the content of the report and the progress made against the 2023-24 Internal Audit Risk Based Plan.
Date Decision Made	28 September 2023
Personal or Prejudicial Interests Disclosed	None

Title of Report	Internal Audit Recommendation Monitoring
Decision Made	<p>Members of the Governance and Audit Committee noted the content of the report and considered the information provided in respect of the status of the high and medium priority recommendations made by the Regional Internal Audit Service.</p> <p>Members of the Governance and Audit Committee agreed that Appendix B be referred to the Corporate Management Board as a matter of urgency and that a report on the outcome be submitted to the November meeting of Governance and Audit Committee.</p>
Date Decision Made	28 September 2023
Personal or Prejudicial Interests Disclosed	None

Title of Report	Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) - External Peer Assessment of the Regional Internal Audit Service
Decision Made	Members of the Governance and Audit Committee noted the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards External Peer Assessment of the Regional Internal Audit Service at Appendix A and acknowledged and endorsed that it is fully conforming to those Standards.
Date Decision Made	28 September 2023
Personal or Prejudicial Interests Disclosed	None

Title of Report	Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report 2022/23 - Draft
Decision Made	Members approved in principle the Governance and Audit Committee's Annual Report, subject to comments being sent to the Head of the Regional Internal Audit Service (RIAS) within 21 days. A final version will be submitted to the November meeting of the Governance and Audit Committee.
Date Decision Made	28 September 2023
Personal or Prejudicial Interests Disclosed	None

Title of Report	Forward Work Programme 2023-24
Decision Made	The Committee considered and approved the updated Forward Work Programme for 2023-24, subject to some amendments to take account of decisions made in the meeting.
Date Decision Made	28 September 2023
Personal or Prejudicial Interests Disclosed	None

Title of Report	Urgent Items
Decision Made	None
Date Decision Made	28 September 2023
Personal or Prejudicial Interests Disclosed	None