

# COUNCIL

9 OCTOBER 2024

## GOVERNANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

### Recommendations / key decisions required:

To receive the report.

### Reasons:

There is a requirement for an Annual Report to be produced.  
The report is being presented to the Council to provide assurance on the work of the Governance & Audit Committee in ensuring transparency, accountability, and effective governance.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted: N/A

Cabinet Decision Required: N/A

Council Decision Required: N/A

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Cllr A Lenny

### Directorate:

Corporate Services

### Name of Head of Service:

Helen Pugh

### Report Author:

David MacGregor

### Designation:

Head of Revenues &  
Financial Compliance

Chair of Governance & Audit  
Committee

### E Mail Address:

HLPugh@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**COUNCIL  
9 OCTOBER 2024**

## **GOVERNANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24**

There is an expectation/requirement that an Annual Report be produced each year reflecting on the range of issues considered by the Governance & Audit Committee, and the effectiveness of its work. This is the first of such reports and mainly reflects on the Committee's performance in the 2023/24 municipal year.

The report is being presented to the Council to provide assurance on the work of the Governance & Audit Committee in ensuring transparency, accountability, and effective governance.

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES**

## IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

**Signed: H L Pugh – Head of Revenues and Financial Compliance**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets	Bio-diversity & Climate Change
<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

### Finance

Strong systems of risk management, financial management and performance management help to prevent poor decision making. The Governance and Audit Committee has oversight of both Internal and External Audit; Internal Audit reviews are carried out to ensure systems in place comply with the Authority's Financial Procedure Rules.

### Risk Management Issues

CIPFA's Position Statement applicable to Audit Committees in Local Authorities and the Police (2022), states that the purpose of the Governance and Audit Committee is:

*'To provide an independent and high-level focus on the adequacy of governance, risk and control arrangements. The committee's role in ensuring that there is sufficient assurance over governance risk and control gives greater confidence to all those charged with governance that those arrangements are effective.'*

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

**Signed: H L Pugh – Head of Revenues and Financial Compliance**

- 1. Scrutiny Committee: Not Applicable**
- 2. Local Member(s): Not Applicable**
- 3. Community / Town Council: Not Applicable**
- 4. Relevant Partners: Not Applicable**
- 5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations: Not Applicable**

**CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER AWARE/CONSULTED:**

**Yes**

### Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

**List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

**These are detailed below:**

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Governance & Audit Committee Terms of Reference	G&AC - TOR	<a href="#">Council Constitution - G&amp;AC TOR</a>