

Meeting of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee (24 April 2023)

Chair: County Councillor Alan Schofield

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

External Audit: Interim Auditor's Annual Report on Lancashire County Council 2021/22

The committee considered the Interim Auditor's Annual Report on Lancashire County Council for 2021/22, presented by Sarah Ironmonger, Partner at Grant Thornton UK.

Resolved: That the auditor's findings on the council's arrangements for securing value for money in its use of resources, and the improvement recommendations made, be noted.

Internal Audit Progress Report

The committee considered a report which provided an update on the Internal Audit Service's work and outcomes for 2022/23, presented by Andy Dalecki, Head of Internal Audit.

Resolved: That the Internal Audit Progress Report be noted.

Internal Audit's External Quality Assessment

The committee considered the findings of the External Quality Assessment of the Internal Audit Service, which was undertaken by the Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors in February 2023, presented by Andy Dalecki, Head of Internal Audit.

Resolved: That the report on the External Quality Assessment, and actions proposed, be noted.

Internal Audit Annual Plan

The committee considered the Internal Audit Annual Plan for 2023/24, presented by Andy Dalecki, Head of Internal Audit.

Resolved: That the Internal Audit Annual Plan for 2023/24, as set out in the report, be approved.



The Council's Annual Governance Statement 2022/23 and Code of Corporate Governance 2023/24

The committee considered the council's draft Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23 and updated Code of Corporate Governance for 2023/24, presented by Paul Bond, Head of Legal, Governance and Registrars.

The Code of Corporate Governance for 2023/34 was recommended to Full Council and can be found in Part A of the agenda.

Resolved: That

- i) The draft Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23, as presented, be approved for inclusion in the draft Statement of Accounts for 2022/23;
- ii) The Director of Law and Governance be authorised to make any subsequential changes to the Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23, in consultation with the Chair of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee;
- iii) The signing of the Annual Governance Statement by the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council, following final approval of the Statement of Accounts, be noted; and
- iv) The updated Code of Corporate Governance for 2023/24, as presented, be recommended to Full Council for approval.

Corporate Risk and Opportunity Register - Quarter 4 Update

The committee considered the updated Corporate Risk and Opportunity Register for Quarter 4 of 2022/23, presented by Paul Bond, Head of Legal, Governance and Registrars.

Resolved: That the updated Corporate Risk and Opportunity Register be noted.

Local Member Grants Scheme Annual Report

The committee considered the Local Member Grants Scheme Annual Report for the period January 2021 to September 2022, presented by Josh Mynott, Democratic and Member Services Manager.

Resolved: That

- i) The Local Member Grants Scheme Annual Report be noted; and
- ii) A further report on the Local Member Grants Scheme be provided at the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee meeting on 16 October 2023, to include updated figures for 2022/23.



Part II (Not Open to Press and Public)

Appendix 'B' to Item 9 - Corporate Risk and Opportunity Register - Quarter 4 Update

(Not for Publication – Exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972. It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interests in disclosing the information).

The committee considered the private and confidential Appendix B to Item 9 – Corporate Risk and Opportunity Register – Quarter 4 Update.

Resolved: That the Appendix B to Item 9 – Corporate Risk and Opportunity Register – Quarter 4 Update be noted.

Data and Analytics Risks

(Not for Publication – Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972. It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interests in disclosing the information).

The committee considered a private and confidential report on the risks associated with the council's use of data and analytics, presented by Mark Greenwood, Head of ICT Architecture and Data.

Resolved: That

- i) The report on data and analytics risks be noted; and
- ii) A further report on data and analytics risks be provided at the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee meeting on 22 April 2024, to include more specific target dates.

Oracle Fusion Data Breach

(Not for Publication – Exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972. It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interests in disclosing the information).

The committee considered a private and confidential report on the Oracle Fusion data breaches reported to the Information Commissioner's Office and the steps taken by the county council in response, presented by Jo Winston, Information Governance Manager.



Resolved: That

- i) The report on the Oracle Fusion Data Breach be noted; and
- ii) A further report on ongoing actions be provided at the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee meeting on 16 October 2023, or sooner if considered necessary by officers.

