

## **Meeting of the Full Council Audit, Risk and Governance Committee 22 April 2024**

**Chair:** County Councillor Alan Schofield

### **Part I (Open to Press and Public)**

#### **Updated Terms of Reference**

The committee considered its updated terms of reference, following Full Council's approval of a new Constitution for Lancashire County Council on 14 March 2024.

**Resolved:** That

- i) The Audit, Risk and Governance Committee's updated terms of reference be noted; and
- ii) A report on the process to appoint at least one independent, non-voting co-opted member, in line with the updated terms of reference, be provided at the next Audit, Risk and Governance Committee meeting on 22 July 2024.

#### **The Council's Statement of Accounts for 2022/23 and Letters of Representation**

Khadija Saeed, Head of Corporate Finance and Exchequer Services presented the council's updated statement of accounts for 2022/23 and the letters of representation from those charged with governance for Lancashire County Council and Lancashire County Pension Fund.

**Resolved:** That

- i) The council's statement of accounts for 2022/23 be approved;
- ii) The Executive Director of Resources (Chief Financial Officer) be authorised to approve any subsequent changes and, in consultation with the Chair of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee, authorised to approve material changes to the statement of accounts for 2022/23; and
- iii) The management representation letters for Lancashire County Council and Lancashire County Pension Fund be signed by the Executive Director of Resources (Chief Finance Officer) and the Chair of the Audit, Risk and



Governance Committee, prior to them being made available to the external auditor.

### **External Audit - Lancashire County Council Audit Findings Report 2022/23**

Stuart Basnett, Senior Audit Manager at Grant Thornton UK presented the Lancashire County Council Audit Findings Reports for 2022/23.

**Resolved:** That the Lancashire County Council Audit Findings Report 2022/23 be noted.

### **External Audit - Lancashire County Pension Fund Audit Findings Report 2022/23**

Stuart Basnett, Senior Audit Manager at Grant Thornton UK presented the Lancashire County Pension Fund Audit Findings Reports for 2022/23.

**Resolved:** That the Lancashire County Pension Fund Audit Findings Report 2022/23 be noted.

### **External Audit - Interim Auditor's Annual Report on Lancashire County Council 2022/23**

Stuart Basnett, Senior Audit Manager at Grant Thornton UK presented the Interim Auditor's Annual Report on Lancashire County Council for 2022/23.

**Resolved:** That

- i) The Interim Auditor's Annual Report on Lancashire County Council for 2022/23 be noted; and
- ii) A further report on the implementation of Oracle Fusion, including outstanding issues and lessons learned, be provided at the next Audit, Risk and Governance Committee meeting on 22 July 2024.

### **Internal Audit Progress Report**

Andy Dalecki, Head of Internal Audit presented an update on the Internal Audit Service's work and outcomes for 2023/24, for the period to 26 March 2024.

**Resolved:** That the Internal Audit Progress Report be noted.

### **Internal Audit Annual Plan**

Andy Dalecki, Head of Internal Audit presented the Internal Audit Plan for 2024/25.

**Resolved:** That the Internal Audit Plan for 2024/25 be approved.



## **The Council's Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 and Code of Corporate Governance 2024/25**

Paul Bond, Head of Governance presented the draft Annual Governance Statement for 2023/24 and Code of Corporate Governance for 2024/25.

The Code of Corporate Governance for 2024/25 was recommended to Full Council and can be found in Part A of the agenda.

**Resolved:** That

- i) The Annual Governance Statement for 2023/24, as presented, be approved for inclusion in the council's Statement of Accounts for 2023/24;
- ii) The Director of Law and Governance be authorised to make any subsequential amendments to the Annual Governance Statement for 2023/24, 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 2024/25, as presented, be recommended to Full Council for approval.

## **Corporate Risk and Opportunity Register - Quarter 1 Update**

Paul Bond, Head of Governance presented the updated Corporate Risk and Opportunity Register for Quarter 1 of 2024/25.

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

## **Local Member Grants Scheme Annual Report**

Josh Mynott, Head of Democratic Services presented the Local Member Grants Scheme Annual Report covering the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years.

**Resolved:** That

- i) The Local Member Grants Scheme Annual Report be noted; and
- ii) An update report be provided at the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee meeting on 14 October 2024.

## **Annual Report on the Lancashire Culture and Sport Fund**

Steve Lloyd, Libraries, Culture and Registration Services Manager and Heather Fox, Cultural Development Manager presented the Annual Report on the Lancashire Culture and Sport Fund.



**Resolved:** That the Annual Report on the Lancashire Culture and Sport Fund be noted.

## **Part II (Not Open to Press and Public)**

### **Appendix 'E' to Item 9**

(Not for Publication – Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 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 E to Item 9 – Internal Audit Progress Report.

**Resolved:** That Appendix E to Item 9 – Internal Audit Progress Report, be noted.

### **Appendix 'C' to Item 12**

(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 C to Item 12 – Corporate Risk and Opportunity Register – Quarter 1 Update.

**Resolved:** That Appendix C to Item 12 – Corporate Risk and Opportunity Register – Quarter 1 Update, be noted.

