

Audit and Governance Committee

6 February 2019

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Customer & Corporate Services

Audit & Governance Committee Forward Plan to December 2019

Summary

1. This paper presents the future plan of reports expected to be presented to the Committee during the forthcoming year to December 2019.

Background

2. There are to be six fixed meetings of the Committee in a municipal year. To assist members in their work, attached as an annex is the indicative rolling forward plan for meetings December 2019. This may be subject to change depending on key internal control and governance developments at the time. A rolling forward plan of the Committee will be reported at every meeting reflecting any known changes.
3. There have been two amendments to the forward plan since the last version was presented to the Committee in December.
4. The approval of the Internal Audit plan has both been added to the Agenda for the next meeting in March.
5. At previous meetings, this Committee has expressed a need for the Council's Constitution to be reviewed. At its meeting on 20 June 2018, the Committee agreed to refer such a review to the Corporate & Scrutiny Management & Policy Committee (CSMC). At that time CSMC already had a Scrutiny Review Task Group underway looking at scrutiny operations. CSMC is still actively concluding that work and will be taking its recommendations to CSMC on 11 March. If any constitutional changes are recommended to scrutiny structures, these will need to go to Council on 21 March. The March meetings of both CSMC and Council are the last prior to purdah. CSMC is committed to completing the remaining review work, within those timescales, which

it had already started prior to the wider constitutional review Audit & Governance Committee recommended it should undertake.

6. Under the work plan business, the Chair of CSMC will raise at its next meeting on 11th March 2019 that a wider constitutional review has been recommended by A&G Committee and, as such, the newly formed CSMC (June 2019) may wish to allocate time and resources to prioritise that review post election, subject to an agreed remit. Consideration will be given to co-opting Members of this Committee onto that review when CSMC are able to commit to undertaking this wider review post election.

Consultation

7. The forward plan is subject to discussion by members at each meeting, has been discussed with the Chair of the Committee and key corporate officers.

Options

8. Not relevant for the purpose of the report.

Analysis

9. Not relevant for the purpose of the report.

Council Plan

10. This report contributes to the overall effectiveness of the council's governance and assurance arrangements contributing to an 'Effective Organisation'.

Implications

11.
 - (a)**Financial** - There are no implications
 - (b)**Human Resources (HR)** - There are no implications
 - (c)**Equalities** - There are no implications
 - (d)**Legal** - There are no implications
 - (e)**Crime and Disorder** - There are no implications

(f) **Information Technology (IT)** - There are no implications

(g) **Property** - There are no implications

Risk Management

12. By not complying with the requirements of this report, the council will fail to have in place adequate scrutiny of its internal control environment and governance arrangements, and it will also fail to properly comply with legislative and best practice requirements.

Recommendations

13. (a) The Committee's forward plan for the period up to December 2019 be noted.

Reason

To ensure the Committee receives regular reports in accordance with the functions of an effective audit committee.

- (b) Members identify any further items they wish to add to the Forward Plan.

Reason

To ensure the Committee can seek assurances on any aspect of the council's internal control environment in accordance with its roles and responsibilities.

Contact Details

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**Report
Approved**



Date 29 Jan 2019

Specialist Implications Officers

None

Wards Affected: Not applicable

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annex

Audit & Governance Committee Forward Plan to December 2019