

Agenda Item 6 – Action/recommendation tracker

Items from the Audit & Governance Committee meetings held on 12th September and 7th November 2022

Agenda Item	Action/recommendation	Update/Status
Health & Safety Update (from 12 th September meeting)	With regard to the risks around abuse and threatening behaviour towards Councillors and how Councillors could keep themselves safe, officers confirmed that information on personal safety was sent around to all councillors recently and that they would revisit the information on the Local Government Association website and circulate any further useful information including how to de-escalate a situation.	Complete – Information was circulated in the ethical newsletter sent to all Members on 10 th November 2022. This included draft guidelines for Members on Personal Safety.
Forward Plan (from 7 th November meeting)	The queries regarding whether items in March 2023 will be under the remit of SWT or SCC to be resolved and the forward plan to be updated.	Complete – updated forward plan is on this agenda
Annual Governance Statement (from 7 th November meeting)	The officer to provide the Committee with an update on Member Training and Development arrangements for the new Unitary Council – specifically relating to specialist areas such as finance, planning and licensing.	An update to be provided at the Committee meeting
Statement of Accounts (from 7 th November meeting)	The officer to provide the Committee with an update on the position in terms of the statutory override relating to infrastructure assets and the signing off of the Statement of Accounts for 2021/22	An update to be provided at the Committee meeting

Agenda Item	Action/recommendation	Update/Status
Statement of Accounts (from 7 th November meeting)	Information to be sent to all Committee members relating to the procurement arrangements for appointing valuers.	<p>Complete – update sent to all Committee members on 9th November 2022. The information was, as follows:</p> <p>When appointing valuers, the Council's Assets team goes through a formal procurement process, which is restricted to firms who are governed by the strict Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) standards on such matters.</p> <p>RICS rules state that any conflict of interest must be declared and a valuer must refuse to act if there is any conflict.</p> <p>The firm would be de-registered and the Valuer struck off if they disobey those rules.</p> <p>The current valuers, Wilks Head & Eve, were appointed following a competition tender process within the ESPO 2700_19 Estates Management Professional Services Framework. There were five bids evaluated by the project team in the last procurement process.</p>