GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Decision Notice – Hybrid meeting, 21st July, 2025

The Committee agenda is available here.

The recording of the meeting is available here.

<u>Present</u>: G. Chapman (Chair and Lay Member); Councillors: G. Ball, E. Goodjohn and M.J. Hooper and M. Evans (Lay Member).

Also present: Councillors L. Burnett (Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources), G. John (Cabinet Member for Leisure, Sport and Wellbeing) and E. Williams (Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health).

AGENDA ITEM 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

These were received from Councillor J. Protheroe and N. Ireland (Vice-Chair and Lay Member).

AGENDA ITEM 2. MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June, 2025 be approved as a correct record.

AGENDA ITEM 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

AGENDA ITEM 4. ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2024/25 (REF) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the Annual Report on Treasury Management 2024/25 be noted and the report be referred to Full Council for approval.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 5. VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT 2024-25 (REF) –

RESOLVED -

- (1) THAT the draft Vale of Glamorgan Council Annual Self-Assessment Report 2024-25 be noted.
- (2) THAT the comments of the Governance and Audit Committee be referred to Cabinet for its consideration. The comments relating to the following:
 - For the presentation of calculations in relation to the percentages of actions and measures completed to be more clearly defined;
 - For any trends relating to the direction of travel of different judgements over time to be considered and presented;
 - The importance to explore the potential for partner engagement in the self-assessment process;
 - For an easy to read/ young person's version of the self-assessment to be devised post consultation.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 6. MID-YEAR REVIEW OF THE WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY AND REPORTED INCIDENTS (MO/HLDS) –

RESOLVED -

- (1) THAT the contents of the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Governance and Audit Committee continue to receive Annual Reports in relation to policy implementation and incidents with the next report to be provided following the end of the current financial year.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 7. REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR JOINT COMMITTEE MEETINGS (MO/HLDS) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted and an update report provided to indicate where the minutes of Joint Committee meetings will be reported to as part of the Council's democratic process.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 8. URGENT AND EMERGENCY CARE: FLOW OUT OF HOSPITAL – CARDIFF AND VALE REGION (DCR) –

RESOLVED -

- (1) THAT the findings from Audit Wales' review of Urgent and Emergency Care: Flow out of Hospital Cardiff and Vale Region be noted.
- (2) THAT the report be referred to Cabinet for its oversight and endorsement.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 9. VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL: REVIEW OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMISSIONING SERVICES (DCR) –

RESOLVED -

- (1) THAT the findings from Audit Wales' review of the Council's arrangements for Commissioning Services (Appendix A to the report) and the response to the Review findings and Audit Wales' recommendations (Appendix B to the report) be noted.
- (2) T H A T the report be referred to Cabinet for its oversight and endorsement of the proposed Council actions (Appendix B to the report).

Reason for decisions

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 10. Q1 UPDATE: AUDIT WALES WORK PROGRAMME 2025 – VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (DCR) –

RESOLVED -

- (1) THAT the contents of the report be noted.
- (2) THAT the report be referred to Cabinet for its oversight.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 11. GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE DECISION AND ACTION TRACKING (DCR) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 12. UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2024/25 (CX) –

RESOLVED -

- (1) THAT the unaudited Vale of Glamorgan Council Statement of Accounts for 2024/25 be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer notes the concern of the Governance and Audit Committee in regard to the delay in the production of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee accounts for this year.
- (3) T H A T the Chair of the Governance and Audit Committee write to the Chief Executive of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee expressing concern about the delay of the Statement of Accounts and also to express the Committee's concern regarding the impact that it is having upon the production of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's draft Statement of Accounts.

Reason for decisions

(1-3) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 13. DRAFT ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2024-25 (HOF/S151O) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the draft Annual Governance Statement for 2024-25 be recommended for adoption by the Leader and Chief Executive.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 14. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CODE 2024-25 UPDATE (HOF/S1510) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the Statement on Compliance with the Financial Management

Code and the Contents of the Review as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be noted and forwarded to Cabinet to its consideration.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 15. ANNUAL CORPORATE FRAUD REPORT 2024-25 (HRIAS) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report and the measures in place and the working being undertaken to prevent and detect fraud and error be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 16. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2025/26 (HRIAS) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the schedule of items for the next meeting on 15th September, 2025 be endorsed.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.