

## Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Council	
MEETING DATE:	15th September 2022	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
TITLE:	Annual Report – Corporate Audit Committee	
WARD:	ALL	
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>		
<b>List of attachments to this report:</b>		
Appendix 1 – Annual Report		
Appendix 2 – Terms of Reference Corporate Audit Committee		

### 1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The Corporate Audit Committee has specific delegated powers given to it from Full Council and as such is required to report back annually on its work to Council under its Terms of Reference.
- 1.2 The Corporate Audit Committee 2021/2022 Annual Report (Appendix 1) details the work carried out by the Committee for the period April 2021 to May 2022 (includes the meeting of the Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022).

### 2 RECOMMENDATION

Council is asked to agree that:

- 2.1 The Annual Report of the Corporate Audit Committee is noted.
- 2.2 Council approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Corporate Audit Committee.

### 3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 Appendix 1 details the seventeenth report of the Corporate Audit Committee since it was established by the Council on 12 May 2005. It reviews the work done by the Committee over the 14 months period (April 2021 to May 2022), its future work plan, membership and support of the Committee.

3.2 The 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021 Committee meeting was the last of the 'virtual' Zoom meetings held, all subsequent meetings have been 'physical' meetings held in the Guildhall, Bath. The Committee meeting agendas have focussed on its core role and responsibilities as per the Committee Terms of Reference.

3.3 The Committee's work will continue to develop and as part of its responsibilities it has reviewed its terms of reference. The key areas of responsibility are still considered appropriate and meet current best practice. However, the attached revised Terms of Reference (Appendix 2) records two changes (highlighted in red text) from the version approved by Council on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022. It expands on the role of the Committee in terms of the audited accounts of Council owned companies and provides examples of other matters relating to corporate governance which are properly referred to the Committee or which come to its attention, i.e. the procurement of External Audit Services, monitoring the governance of Council owned companies (Aequus Developments Ltd and Aequus Construction Ltd).

#### **4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS**

4.1 There are no specific statutory considerations related to this report. As stated in the issue section of this report the Corporate Audit Committee is required to report back to Council annually.

#### **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)**

5.1 There are no direct resource implications relevant to this report.

#### **6 RISK MANAGEMENT**

6.1 A proportionate risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision-making risk management guidance.

6.2 The Corporate Audit Committee has specific responsibility for ensuring the Council's Risk Management and Financial Governance framework is robust and effective.

#### **7 EQUALITIES**

7.1 A proportionate equalities impact assessment has been carried out using corporate guidelines and no significant issues have been identified.

#### **8 CLIMATE CHANGE**

8.1 There are no direct climate change implications related to this report.

## 9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 No other options to consider related to this report.

## 10 CONSULTATION

10.1 The report was distributed to the Council's S151 Officer and Chair of the Audit Committee for consultation.

<b>Contact person</b>	<i>Andy Cox (01225 477316)</i>
<b>Background papers</b>	<i>None</i>
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	