

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>COUNCIL</b>
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Tracy Greenhalgh, Head of Audit and Risk
<b>Relevant Member:</b>	Councillor Jason Roberts, Chair of Audit Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	29 November 2023

## AUDIT COMMITTEE HALF YEARLY REPORT 2023/2024

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the Audit Committee Half Yearly Report for 2023/2024.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To receive the Audit Committee Half Yearly Report 2023/2024 and to ask the Chair of the Committee questions relating to the report and the audit function.

2.2 To note the update on compliance with the Chartered Institute for Public Finance Position Statement and agree the Council's performance against the core functions in the Position Statement as set out in Appendix 9a.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The Audit Committee Annual Report sets out the work undertaken so far by the Committee during the 2023/2024 Municipal Year and seeks confirmation of the recommendation regarding compliance with the CIPFA Position Statement on Audit Committees.

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

### 4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 None.

### 5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priorities are:

- The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool
- Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience

## **6.0 Background information**

- 6.1 The Chair of Audit Committee, Councillor Jason Roberts, will present the half-yearly Report to Council. The report highlights the work undertaken during the Municipal Year 2023/2024 so far.
- 6.2 The report builds on the annual report provided to Council at the June 2023 meeting and forms part of the reporting arrangements identified and agreed by Council.
- 6.3 A key part of the report also provides details of the Councils compliance with the CIPFA Position Statement on Audit Committees. This was considered at the 19 October 2023 meeting of the Committee and it was agreed that an update on the work undertaken would be provided to full Council, together with a recommendation that the work of the Committee complies with the Position Statement.
- 6.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

## **7.0 List of Appendices:**

- 7.1 Appendix 9(a): Audit Committee Half-Yearly Report 2023/2024.

## **8.0 Financial considerations:**

- 8.1 The Audit Committee remains responsible for approval of the Statement of Accounts. Details of this work are provided as part of the update at Appendix 9(a).

## **9.0 Legal considerations:**

- 9.1 There is no legal requirement to have an a half-yearly report, although it is considered best practice. The CIPFA Position Statement is a set of criteria which has been designed to identify best practice in the operation of local government Audit Committees.

## **10.0 Risk management considerations:**

- 10.1 The Half-Yearly update (Appendix 9a) provides detail of the ongoing risk management work undertaken by the Audit Committee so far in 2023/2024.

## **11.0 Equalities considerations and the impact of this decision for our children and young people:**

- 11.1 None associated with this report.

## **12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:**

- 12.1 None associated with this report.

**13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:**

13.1 None.

**14.0 Background papers:**

14.1 None.