

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

30th September 2022

REPORT AUTHOR: Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer)

REPORT TITLE: Governance & Audit committee Self-Assessment

REPORT FOR: **Decision**

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report proposes a set of actions in response to the points identified through the self-assessment undertaken by the previous Governance and Audit committee.
- 1.2 The Committee is asked to review the plan and consider if the actions proposed sufficiently address the points raised. Committee members are asked to consider any actions that they feel need amending, strengthening or adding to and whether the timescales around delivery are appropriate.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council is required to evaluate its performance through self-assessment, under Section 91 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.
- 2.2 The previous Governance and Audit Committee undertook a self-assessment in March 2022 and the output of this work was shared with the new committee as a verbal update provided by the Head of Finance at the meeting on 29th July, 2022.
- 2.3 In response officers have drawn up an action plan to address the points raised. Some improvements have already been made and these are recorded in the plan alongside the additional actions proposed.

3. Action Plan

- 3.1 The action plan is drawn together around 4 themes, as follows:-
 - 1. Planning Ahead and Effective Meetings
 - 2. Committee Member Development
 - 3. Relationships with others
 - 4. Specific Areas of Focus over the Medium Term:
 - Capital

- Financial Planning
- Fraud
- HOWPS Transition
- Risk (including workforce)

3.2 The plan proposes 53 actions aligned to these themes, each assigned to a responsible officer along with the timescales for delivery. Each action is accompanied by a RAG status (Red, Amber, Green) to record whether the action is on track for delivery as expected. Currently all bar 2 actions are rated Green or Blue where the action has already been completed. The 2 actions rated amber have been discussed with the committee but the delay in getting things in place is recognised by this rating.

3.3 Once approved the action plan will be monitored by the Committee and the effectiveness of the actions delivered will be reviewed on an annual basis through the annual self-assessment process.

4. Recommendation

4.1 That the Committee consider and approve the action plan with the inclusion of any changes agreed at the meeting today.

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<p>Head of Service: Jane Thomas</p>

<p>Corporate Director:/Chief Executive</p>
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