

## **GOVERNANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE: 24 January 2023**

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### **DRAFT MID-YEAR SELF-ASSESSMENT REPORT 2022/23**

### **REPORT OF THE HEAD OF PERFORMANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS**

### **AGENDA ITEM: 8.1**

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#### **Reason for this Report**

1. For Governance and Audit Committee to receive for noting the Council's Mid-Year Assessment Report, to consider the self-assessment process for developing the report and make any appropriate recommendations for improvement.

#### **Background**

2. As part of its planning and performance arrangements the Council is required to publish an end-of-year self-assessment of performance (the Annual Wellbeing Report). The Governance and Audit Committee is required under the Local Government and Elections Act (Wales) 2022 to review the Council's statutory annual Self-Assessment Report and make any appropriate recommendations. The Committee reviewed the Council's Annual Wellbeing Report on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and three made recommendations for improvement (see Appendix 3 and paragraph 10 below).
3. As part of the Council's strengthened performance management arrangements, a mid-year self-assessment of performance is also published annually. This ensures that performance is kept under regular review, there is collective understanding of progress, as well as areas of challenge, and corrective action can be identified and agreed if necessary.
4. The Governance and Audit Committee has agreed to receive the non-statutory draft Mid-Year Self-Assessment Report, to note the findings and consider the self-assessment process for developing the report.

#### **Mid-Year Self-Assessment Report**

5. The Mid-Year Assessment Report will be considered by the Council's Cabinet on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023. A copy of the Cabinet Report, Half-Year Self Evaluation Report, Scrutiny Letter and Cabinet Response can be accessed below:
  - [Cabinet Report](#)
  - [Mid-Year Assessment Report](#)
6. The Cabinet Report sets out the self-assessment process followed in the production of the Mid-Year Performance Assessment and the evidence upon which the report's conclusions are based. The report summarises areas of progress and improvement, and also identifies a small number of strategic improvement priorities which will be the subject of focus during Quarter 3 and Quarter 4. These are:

- Financial Pressures
  - Demand Pressures in Children’s Services
  - Delivering a Partnership Response to Demand Pressures in the city’s Health and Social Care System
  - Responding to the Cost-of-Living Crisis
  - Workforce Pressures
  - Housing
7. The Mid-Year Assessment report therefore provides an in-depth assessment of performance for each of the Council’s seven Well-Being Objectives, as set out in the Corporate Plan 2022-25.
  8. The Council’s Policy Review and Performance Scrutiny Committee is due to consider the Mid-Year assessment of performance 2022/23 at its meeting on 17 January 2023.
  9. As noted above, following consideration of the Annual Wellbeing Report in September 2022, Governance and Audit Committee made three recommendations for improvement, each of which were accepted by the Council. The letter can be found [here](#). In response to the recommendations, changes were made to strengthen the Annual Wellbeing Report before consideration by Cabinet and Council in October. The Council also committed to working in consultation with the Committee on strengthening the Council’s approach to self-assessment and on the production of self-assessment reports. It has been agreed that a workshop will be convened with the Committee in Q4 to consider the Council’s approach to self-assessment as well as the content and structure of the Annual Wellbeing Report, with opportunities to receive suggestions for improvement at an early stage.

### **Legal Implications**

10. The statutory requirements under Local Government and Elections Act (Wales) 2022 that give rise to this report are set out within it. There are no other legal implications.

### **Financial Implications**

11. There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.”

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is recommended to:

- Note the contents of the Mid-Year Self-Assessment Report
- Consider the self-assessment process for developing the report and makes any appropriate recommendations for improvement.

**Gareth Newell**  
**Head of Performance and Partnerships**

### Background Papers

- Year End Wellbeing (Self-Assessment) Report 2021/22 (considered by Governance and Audit Committee on [27 September 2022](#), agreed by Cabinet on [20 October 2022](#) and agreed by Council on [27 October 2022](#))