

## **GOVERNANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE: 23 JANUARY 2024**

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### **MID-YEAR ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE 2023/24**

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

### **AGENDA ITEM: 8.2**

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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 2023/24, in advance of it discharging the following responsibility when the report for the full year is prepared:
  - To review the Council's draft annual Self-Assessment Report, and make any appropriate recommendations for changes.

#### **Background**

2. As part of its planning and performance arrangements the Council is required to publish an end-of-year self-assessment of performance (which is integrated within the Annual Wellbeing Report). The Governance and Audit Committee is required under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 to review the Council's statutory annual Self-Assessment Report and make any appropriate recommendations. The Committee reviewed the Council's last annual self-assessment report (within its Annual Wellbeing Report 2022/23) on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and made no recommendations for improvement.

#### **Issues**

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 Self-Assessment report provides an assessment of performance for each of the Council's seven Well-Being Objectives, as set out in the Corporate Plan 2023-26.
6. The [Cabinet Report of 14 December 2023](#) (Appendix A) sets out the self-assessment process for developing 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 of 2023/24. These are:
  - a. Financial Pressures
  - b. Demand Pressures across Council Services
  - c. Workforce Pressures impacting all Council Services
  - d. Responding to new risks and issues
7. The Mid-Year Self-Assessment Report was considered by the Council's Cabinet on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023.
8. The Council's Policy Review and Performance (PRAP) Scrutiny Committee considered the Mid-Year Assessment of Performance 2023/24 at its meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023. The Committee made two recommendations, both of which were accepted.
9. The report was also considered by the Council's Performance Panel on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023, which includes all Scrutiny Committee Chairs. The Panel made 11 recommendations, 10 of which were accepted in full and one which was partially accepted. Responses were provided to all requests by the Panel for further information.
10. A copy of the Cabinet Report, Mid-Year Self Evaluation Report, Scrutiny Letter and Cabinet Response can be accessed below:
  - [Cabinet Report](#)
  - [Mid-Year Assessment Report](#)
  - [Scrutiny Performance Panel Letter](#)
  - [Scrutiny Performance Panel Letter Response](#)
  - [PRAP Scrutiny Letter](#)

## **Legal Implications**

11. Relevant legal provisions are set out in the body of the report. There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of the report.

## **Financial Implications**

12. There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

## RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the contents of the Mid-Year Self-Assessment Report (Appendix B);

**Gareth Newell**

**Head of Performance and Partnerships**

17 January 2024

## Appendices

- **Appendix A: Mid Year Self-Assessment** [Cabinet Report \(14 December 2023\)](#)
- **Appendix B:** [Mid-Year Self-Assessment Report \(2023/24\)](#)

## Background Papers

- Year End Wellbeing (Self-Assessment) Report 2022/23 (considered by Governance and Audit Committee on [11<sup>th</sup> July 2023](#), agreed by Cabinet on [13<sup>th</sup> July 2023](#) and agreed by Council on [21<sup>st</sup> September 2023](#)).