



## Audit Committee

### 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Title</b>                   | <b>Annual Report of the Audit Committee 2021-22</b>  |
| <b>Report of</b>               | Chair of the Audit Committee   |
| <b>Wards</b>                   | N/A  |
| <b>Status</b>                  | Public   |
| <b>Urgent</b>                  | No   |
| <b>Key</b>                     | No   |
| <b>Enclosures</b>              | <b>Appendix 1-</b> Annual Report of the Audit Committee 2021-22  |
| <b>Officer Contact Details</b> | Clair Green, Executive Director of Assurance<br><a href="mailto:clair.green@barnet.gov.uk">clair.green@barnet.gov.uk</a> |

### Summary

This report provides the Audit Committee with its annual report for 2021-22. The report provides an overview of good corporate governance, which requires independent, effective assurance about both the adequacy of financial management and reporting, and the management of other processes required to achieve the organisation's corporate and service objectives.

Appendix 1 contains the Committee's Annual Report and describes how the Audit Committee meets its objectives as well as detailing the work of the Committee to date and the outcomes that have been achieved for 2021-22.

### Recommendations

1. That the Audit Committee approve the Annual report for 2021-22.
2. That the Audit Committee note that the Annual Audit report for 2021-22 be reported to Full Council.

## **1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED**

- 1.1** The Constitution, Article 7 includes the following within the Audit Committee's terms of reference:

“The Audit Committee shall prepare a report to Full Council on an annual basis on its activity and effectiveness.”

- 1.1** The Annual Report describes the work of the Committee to date and the outcomes it has achieved for 2021-22.
- 1.2** The Committee is asked whether they wish to make any amendments and note that the report will be presented to Full Council in due course.

## **2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1** It is a Constitutional requirement for the Audit Committee to present an Annual Report to full Council each year.

## **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

- 3.1** Not relevant.

## **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

- 4.1** Once agreed by the Committee the report will be sent to the next Full Council meeting.

## **5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

- 5.1.1** The Audit Committee provides the Council with independent assurance and effective challenge and, therefore, the Committee is central to the provision of effective governance that supports delivery of all corporate priorities.

### **5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

- 5.2.1** None in the context of this report.

### **5.3 Social Value**

- 5.3.1** None in the context of this report.

### **5.4 Legal and Constitutional References**

5.4.1 There are no legal issues in the context of this report.

5.4.2 The Audit Committee's terms of reference are noted in the Council's Constitution, Article 7. which states that the Audit Committee "shall prepare a report to Full Council on annual basis on its activity and effectiveness".

## **5.5 Risk Management**

5.5.1 None in the context of this report.

## **5.6 Equalities and Diversity**

5.6.1 Effective systems of audit, internal control and corporate governance provide assurance on the effective allocation of resources and quality of service provision for the benefit of the entire community to assist with compliance with the Council's duties under the 2010 Equality Act.

## **5.7 Corporate Parenting**

5.7.1 None in the context of this report.

## **5.8 Consultation and Engagement**

5.8.1 N/A

## **5.9 Insight**

5.9.1 None in the context of this report.

## **6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

6.1 Not relevant to this report.

## **7. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None