

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT**

**REPORT TO:** **THE PRESIDING MEMBER AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

**SUBJECT:** **GOVERNANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE**  
**- 27<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2022**

**REPORT OF:** **DEMOCRATIC & COMMITTEE SUPPORT OFFICER**

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**PRESENT:** Ms Joanne Absalom (Chair)

Councillors S. Behr (Vice-Chair)  
W. Hodgins  
C. Smith  
T. Smith  
J. Wilkins  
Mr M. Veale

**WITH:** Audit & Risk Manager  
Head of Democratic Services, Governance & Partnerships  
Professional Lead – Internal Audit  
Senior Auditor  
Corporate Director of Education  
Data Protection & Governance Officer  
Scrutiny & Democratic Officer

**AND:** Charlotte Owen ) Audit Wales  
Alice Rushby )

**DECISIONS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**

| <b><u>ITEM</u></b> | <b><u>SUBJECT</u></b>   | <b><u>ACTION</u></b> |
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| <b>No. 1</b>       | <b><u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u></b><br><br>It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service. |                      |

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| <b>No. 2</b> | <p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>An apology for absence was received from Councillor J. Gardner.</p>  |  |
| <b>No. 3</b> | <p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u></b></p> <p>The following declarations of interest were reported:</p> <p>Councillor Tommy Smith - Item No. 8 Internal Audit Progress Report (Appendix B3)</p> <p>Councillor W. Hodgins – Item No. 8 Internal Audit Progress Report (discussions re SRS)</p>   |  |
| <b>No. 4</b> | <p><b><u>TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS</u></b></p> <p>RESOLVED that future meetings be held at 10.00 a.m.</p>  |  |
| <b>No. 5</b> | <p><b><u>GOVERNANCE &amp; AUDIT COMMITTEE</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the Governance &amp; Audit Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2022 were submitted.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>  |  |
| <b>No. 6</b> | <p><b><u>GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2022-23</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Audit &amp; Risk Manager.</p> <p>It was reported that the date of the last Committee should be amended to read 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2023.</p> <p>RESOLVED, subject to the foregoing, that the report be accepted and the Forward Work Programme for the Governance and Audit Committee be approved.</p> |  |
| <b>No. 7</b> | <p><b><u>INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER</u></b></p>  |  |

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|               | <p>Consideration was given to report of the Audit &amp; Risk Manager.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and the Internal Audit Charter in line with good practice and the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) be approved.</p>   |  |
| <b>No. 8</b>  | <p><b><u>INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Professional Lead Internal Audit.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and the Committee note the findings within the attached Appendices and notes progress on activities for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 30th June 2022.</p>   |  |
| <b>No. 9</b>  | <p><b><u>AUDIT WALES – BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL ANNUAL AUDIT SUMMARY 2021</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Head of Democratic Services, Governance &amp; Partnerships.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and the Committee note the Annual Audit Summary published in January 2022.</p>  |  |
| <b>No. 10</b> | <p><b><u>AUDIT WALES 2022 AUDIT PLAN FOR BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Chief Officer Resources.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and the Committee note the work planned for 2022 by the Auditor General for Wales to discharge his statutory responsibilities as the Council's external auditor and fulfil his obligations under the Code of Audit Practice.</p> |  |