

## Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

### Audit Committee – Annual Report 2018-2019

#### Introduction

This report summarises the work undertaken by the Audit Committee of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council throughout the 2018-2019 Civic Year.

#### Membership

The members of the Audit Committee were: Councillors Dr D Morgan, L Purcell, A R Aubrey, H C Clarke, S E Freeguard, J Miller, S H Reynolds, A J Richards, R W Wood, S ap Dafydd, O S Davies, L Jones and Mrs J Jenkins (Voting Lay Member)

The Committee Chair was Cllr. Dr. Del Morgan, and the Vice Chair was Cllr. Linet Purcell.

#### Work Programme

The Committee's forward work programme is agreed by members on a rolling basis, although this Committee's work is often driven by statutory requirements or by the dynamic necessities of particular circumstances as they arise.

The Committee met four times formally during the year.

#### Specific Duties and Tasks Undertaken by the Committee

The Committee approved the Council's Statement of Accounts including the Annual Governance Statement.

The Committee approved the Council's Internal Audit Plan for the year. Members queried the rationale for the number of days planned on some of the audits and asked for details of how the risk ratings were calculated.

The Committee on a quarterly basis monitored Internal Audit performance against the plan. The Audit Manager responded to all questions asked by Members and provided further information at future meetings where appropriate.

The Committee monitored External Audit Performance and received update reports from Wales Audit Office.

The Committee received an update on the actions taken to address the recommendations made in the external review of the Council's compliance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

The Committee approved a revised Internal Audit Charter.

The Committee received regular details of all investigations relating to theft, fraud and malpractice.

The Committee received Treasury Management Progress Reports in order to fulfill their obligations in relation to the Scrutiny of Treasury Management activity.

The Committee received an update on the Authority's Strategic & Operational Risk Registers and contributed to developing the format of the risk registers. In addition the Committee received a demonstration from Officers of the newly introduced Risk Management IT system. Committee Members were able to 'walk through' the system to provide assurance that the processes and procedures proposed were appropriate.

(Cllr. Dr. Del Morgan, Chair)

(September 2019)