



## **Councillor Karl Arthur – Chair of Audit and Governance Committee**

### **Update to the Council 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019**

The Audit and Governance Committee has met once since the last update provided to the council on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018. This meeting took place on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

### **Audit and Governance Committee – 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

The Audit and Governance Committee agenda was once again very busy with no fewer than fourteen items on the agenda – and I would like to thank committee members and officers for their input and support during the course of the meeting. I would particularly like to thank Peter Williams (Head of Finance for the Council) who provided cover for the items that Karen Iveson would normally deal with whilst she was on annual leave.

The items covered during the course of this meeting included the Corporate Risk Register 2018/19 and the Information Governance Annual Report. In addition the committee also reviewed the Risk Management Strategy, the External Audit Progress Report and the Counter Fraud Framework Update as well as conducting the Annual Review of the Councils Constitution.

The committee was delighted to be joined by our Chief Executive, Janet Waggott, who provided a briefing to members on the MHCLG announcement on local government preparedness for Brexit and associated additional funding. She reported that for district councils this funding would amount to £17.5K for each of the financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20. A draft Corporate Risk around a no deal Brexit was appended to the briefing and the Chief Executive gave an overview of these risks to the committee and what we intended to do to meet these risks. The committee was asked to note the information on the report and provide comments if required.

Finally, in my previous report I stated that the report on local government ethical standards by the Committee for Standards in Public Life was due to be brought before the committee to discuss in its January meeting. Unfortunately, this report was not ready to be included for discussion on the agenda for the January meeting but it should be ready for a meeting in the near future.

I commend my statement to the Council.

**Councillor Karl Arthur**

**Chair, Audit and Governance Committee**