

Report of the Governance Committee

1. Any Governance recommendations on the reports that require a decision by full Council appear as separate items on the agenda.
2. Please note the following report may not reflect the wording used in the minutes, as they have yet to be formally agreed.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 JANUARY 2021

Matters Arising from the previous minutes 22 December 2020 – Update on 2018/19 and 2019/20 Statement of Accounts and Audit

3. Mark Stocks, External Auditor reported to the Committee that the following the previous meeting the 2018/19 Audited Statement of Accounts and the 2019/20 Audited Statement of Accounts had been concluded and that a Section 24 notice had been issued.

South Ribble Corporate Risk Register 2021

4. The Deputy Chief Executive presented a report to Committee giving details of the Corporate Risk Register, a vehicle by which the Council aims to identify and address any potential risks to the organisation and the delivery of its functions which therefore need to be managed strategically.
5. The report provided members with an updated SRR which included 16 existing strategic risks to the council, including existing controls as well as actions planned to further mitigate identified risks.
6. Vicky Willett, Shared Services Lead – Transformation and Partnerships explained that the Register was a 'live' document, regularly reviewed by Senior Management particularly in the light of the COVID pandemic. It was currently reviewed twice a year by the Committee but this could be more often as determined by members.
7. Members raised queries and made comments in relation to Strategic Partnerships (particularly City Deal), Agile Services (consideration post COVID 19), Council's reputation, Shared Services Agreements, Staff Satisfaction and morale (particularly the impact of the current pandemic, homeworking and Shared Services), and Data breach or action leading to complaints or ICO investigation.
8. Regarding staff satisfaction and morale, Ms Willett highlighted that the result of the latest survey of staff satisfaction was 78%, following work to address the issue of staff wellbeing over the last six months and this would be progressed further this year especially in light of the current pandemic.
9. With regard to Agile services and Council reputation, it was explained this relates to the ability of the Council to adapt to changing circumstances and thus impacting on customer satisfaction and effectiveness in engaging with residents. They were identified as risks to the Council if not managed effectively.
10. In relation to Strategic Partnerships, particularly the City Deal, the Chief Executive explained that the residual risk score has resulted in 'green' on the Action plan due the fact that the Council has mitigated the risk as well as it

can in that the Council has made its position clear i.e. that it will stick to the existing financial deal.

11. In relation to R15 Data breach or action leading to complaints or ICO investigation, the Chief Executive explained that the risk relates to specific third party access to our systems and how the Council is looking to better share its intelligence e.g. with health partners and how the associated risks will be mitigated.
12. The Committee thanked officers for the information and noted the strategic risks, the controls in place and actions planned to further mitigate the strategic risks as outlined in appendix 1 to the report.

Insurance Brokerage Procurement

13. The Deputy Monitoring Officer presented a report informing members of the recent brokerage insurance procurement. The report indicated that the Insurance Broker contract was last procured in 2016 which established a 2-year contract on a fixed fee basis, with the option to extend on an annual basis for a further 2 years. Both councils chose to extend the contract into years 3 and 4 with the contract coming to an end on the 31 December 2020. A procurement exercise was therefore necessary during 2020 to obtain a new contract. The report identified the successful bid as £840.00 which represented a substantial saving.
14. In response to a query, it was confirmed that there were 3 bids received and that the criteria weightings were 70% quality and 30% price, with additional criteria relating to due diligence. The successful bidder scored highest on quality and price. The contract would be for 2 years, with the option to extend for a further 2 years.
15. The Committee agreed to note the report.

Regulation of Investigatory Powers (RIPA) Act 2000 Update

16. The Deputy Monitoring Officer presented a report providing a brief update to members regarding the use of the Council's powers under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA).
17. The Committee agreed to note the report.

COUNCILLOR IAN WATKINSON
CHAIR OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE