

Report to Audit & Risk Assurance Committee

5 June 2023

Subject:	Audit and Risk Assurance Committee Resolution - Update
Director:	Director of Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer Surjit Tour
Contact Officer:	Surjit Tour

1 Recommendations

- 1.1 That the Board notes the response from the Leader of the Council in relation to the Committee's resolution of 17 March 2022 (Minute No. 23/22 – Appendix 1 to this report).

2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee resolved that the Leader of the Council responds to its request as set out in its resolution of 17 March 2022. The Committee is invited to note the response received.

4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 The Committee at its meeting on 17 March 2022 resolved that:

“The Committee received an update on the implementation of the resolutions made at its meetings held on 18 March 2021 (reconvened on 18 May 2021) (Minute No 21/21 refers) and 24 June 2021 (Minute No 25/21 refers).



In respect of resolution (3) of Minute No. 25/21 (of 24 June 2021) the Director Law and Governance reported that it had not been possible to agree a suitable date with the Chair for the additional meeting to take place.

The Committee received an update on the matter.

Resolved that, in reference to Minute No. 21/21(3) of the meeting held on 18 March 2021, (reconvened on 18 May 2021), the Committee feels that it has come to an impasse with officers in relation to this matter, which is preventing further progress; and therefore recommends that the Executive commissions an external review into the matters raised in relation to alleged racism and whether it is appropriate for the Council to issue an apology to the individuals concerned.”

- 4.2 The wider subject matter relating to this report has been considered at length previously by this Committee. A specific point was raised by the Committee as detailed within the resolution resulting in the Committee resolving to request that the Leader of the Council considers commissioning an external review.
- 4.3 The Leader of the Council has considered the request and responded to the Chairperson of the Committee on 27 March 2023 (see Appendix 2).
- 4.3 The Committee is asked to consider and note the response of the Leader of the Council.

5 Implications

Resources:	There are no such implications arising
Legal and Governance:	The council is required to conduct itself lawfully at all times. The response before the Committee provides an important clarification and outlines the approach the council has and is taking with regards to its EDI Agenda.



Risk:	The council is exposed to risk of reputational harm and potential litigation should it fail to discharge its obligations fully and properly.
Equality:	The council must ensure that it complies with its equality duty and Equality Act at all times.
Health and Wellbeing:	There are no such implications arising
Social Value:	There are no such implications arising
Climate Change:	There are no such implications arising
Corporate Parenting:	There are no such implications arising

6 Appendices

Appendix 1 - Committee resolution of 17 March 2022 (Minute No. 23/22)

Appendix 2 - Response from the Leader of the Council dated 27 March 2023

7. Background Papers

N/a

