Extract Minute from Governance and Standards Committee – 23 February, 2022

Appointment of External Auditors

The Head of Finance informed the Committee that the Council needs to appoint External Auditors every 5 years. The next round of the external auditors would commence for the financial year 2023-2024. However, the Council are required to have appointed the External Auditors by December 2022.

The Council have two options available to seek replacement External Auditors alone or to participate in the public sector Audit Appointments which is the PSAA procurement exercises and for the reasons outlined in section 3.3 it is recommendation to opt in with the PSAA appointment. It is a decision for Full Council whether the Council opt in or out of the procurement exercise.

As the Governance & Standards Committees have attendance by the External Auditors at the Committee meetings, it was felt that this Committee would review the report and make a recommendation to Council.

The Head of Finance stated that it would be for this Committee to recommend the PSSA Procurement option, and this decision must be made by 11 March 2022. As a Council a response to the PSAA has to be made as to if as a Council will opt out of this Procurement method or the Council’s decision to use the PSAA and opt in

The Chair called for a Motion on the recommendation

That the Council accept Public Sector Audit Appointments’ invitation to opt in to the national scheme for the appointment of external auditors for five consecutive financial years commencing April 2023.

That delegated authority be given to the Section 151 Officer (or deputy in their absence) to accept The PSAA invitation to become an opted-in authority.

Proposer Councillor Sissons

Seconder Councillor Norman

The Motion was unanimously agreed by those present for the presentation. (Councillor Lohan was not present for this item).