Report to Audit and Governance Committee

Date:	27 November 2023
Title:	**Review of Effectiveness of Audit Committee - Update**
Relevant councillor(s):	**N/A**
Author and/or contact officer:	Maggie Gibb – Head of Business Assurance (& Chief Auditor)
Ward(s) affected:	**N/A**
Recommendations:	**Members are recommended to note the report.**
Reason for decision:	N/A

1.   Executive summary

1.1   Audit committees are a key component of an authority's governance framework. Their purpose is to provide an independent and high-level focus on the adequacy of governance, risk, and control arrangements. The committee's role in ensuring that there is sufficient assurance over governance risk and control gives greater confidence to all those charged with governance that those arrangements are effective.

1.2   In accordance with CIPFA's Position Statement: Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Police 2022, an evaluation of the effectiveness of Buckinghamshire Council's Audit and Governance Committee was undertaken in July 2023, and areas for improvement were identified.

2.   Content of report

2.1   Appendix 1 provides an update on progress against the improvement plan actions.

3.   Other options considered

3.1   N/A.

4.   Legal and financial implications

4.1   None.

5.   Corporate implications

5.1   None.

6.   Local councillors & community boards consultation & views

6.1   N/A

7.   Communication, engagement & further consultation

7.1   N/A.

8.   Next steps and review

8.1   The improvement plan will be presented to the next Audit and Governance
         Committee in January 2024.

9.   Background papers

9.1   Audit and Governance Committee Review of Effectiveness (July agenda)**.**

10.   Your questions and views (for key decisions)

10.1   If you have any questions about the matters contained in this report please get in
         touch with the author of this report. If you have any views that you would like the
         cabinet member to consider please inform the democratic services team. This can be
         done by telephone 01296 382343 or email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.