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5 September 2023

## **Governance Committee**

A meeting of the Committee will be held at **2.15 pm** on **Wednesday, 13 September 2023** at **County Hall, Chichester PO19 1RQ**.

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### **Agenda**

1. **Declarations of Interest**

Members and officers must declare any pecuniary or personal interest in any business on the agenda. They should also make declarations at any stage such an interest becomes apparent during the meeting. Consideration should be given to leaving the meeting if the nature of the interest warrants it. If in doubt please contact Democratic Services before the meeting.

2. **Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee** (Pages 3 - 6)

The Committee is asked to agree the minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2023 (cream paper).

3. **Urgent Matters**

Items not on the agenda which the Chairman of the meeting is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency by reason of special circumstances.

4. **County Council February Budget Meeting Options** (Pages 7 - 14)

Report by the Director of Law and Assurance.

Each February, the County Council considers its overarching strategy document and budget for the forthcoming year. This item is always a major and lengthy debate. Following a request at its last meeting, the Committee is asked to consider options for managing these annual debates.

5. **Update to Constitution - Corporate Parenting Panel Terms of Reference** (Pages 15 - 22)

Report by the Director of Law and Assurance.

The Committee is asked to consider endorsing minor updates to the core membership of the Corporate Parenting Panel for recommendation to the County Council.

6. **Regulation, Audit and Accounts Committee: Proposed changes to Terms of Reference** (Pages 23 - 30)

The Committee is asked to consider a number of changes to the terms of reference of the Regulation, Audit and Accounts Committee (RAAC) for recommendation to the County Council. The changes include the formalisation of a referral process, changes to ensure the terms of reference more accurately reflect RAAC's duties and an increase in the number of independent co-opted members.

7. **Executive-Scrutiny Protocol Review** (Pages 31 - 40)

Report by the Director of Law and Assurance.

The Committee is asked to review the effectiveness of the Executive-Scrutiny Protocol which was introduced in September 2022. The aim of the Protocol is to enhance scrutiny by describing the relationship between scrutiny and the Executive (the Cabinet) and providing a framework for how they may work together most effectively.

8. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 2.15 pm on 6 November 2023 at County Hall, Chichester.

Members are invited to discuss and agree plans for the business of future meetings of the Committee. Planned agenda items include:

- Update to Financial Regulations
- Staff Appeals Panel Annual Report
- Report of the Member Development Group

**To all members of the Governance Committee**