REPORT CONSIDERED BY FINANCE, AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE AT THE MEETING HELD ON 23 JUNE 2021

*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

TITLE OF REPORT: FINANCE, AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR - RESOURCES

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: NON-EXECUTIVE FUNCTION

COUNCIL PRIORITY: BE A MORE WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE AND EFFICIENT COUNCIL

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 To consider the Annual Report of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee for the 2020/21 Civic Year.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1. That the Committee consider and comment on the Annual Report of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee as attached at Appendix A, prior to consideration by Full Council.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1. The enable the Committee to consider the report before it is presented to Full Council. To provide Full Council with assurance as to the effectiveness of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1. None.

5. CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT MEMBERS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

- 5.1. The outgoing and current Chair of the Committee have been consulted on the content of the report.
- 5.2. The current Members of the Committee have been provided with an opportunity to comment on the Report before it is presented to Full Council.

6. FORWARD PLAN

6.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

7. BACKGROUND

7.1. The Chair of Finance, Audit and Risk Committee reports to Full Council each year providing an overview of the work that has been done over the previous Civic Year. It also provides a summary of the work planned for the forthcoming year.

8. **RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS**

8.1 The Annual Report for 2020-21 is attached at Appendix A. The Annual Report is intended to provide Full Council with assurance as to the effectiveness of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Although it is not specifically referred to in the Constitution and is not a legal requirement, Full Council has routinely received an Annual Report from the Chair of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Providing Full Council with assurance over the effectiveness of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee gives confidence that the areas of its work (including financial management) are being manged effectively.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

11.1. Providing Full Council with assurance over the effectiveness of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee gives confidence that the areas of its work (including risk) are being manged effectively.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1. In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 12.2. There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

13.1. The Social Value Act and "go local" requirements do not apply to this report.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

14.1. There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this report.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

15.1 There are no Human Resources implications arising from this report.

16. APPENDICES

16.1 Appendix A - Finance, Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2020-21.

17. CONTACT OFFICERS

17.1 Ian Couper Service Director: Resources Ian.couper@north-herts.gov.uk Ext: 4243

18. BACKGROUND PAPERS

18.1 Reports to and minutes of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee during the Civic Year 2020-21