



## **Audit & Risk Committee**

### **Management Responses to the Value for Money (VFM) recommendations made in the 2022/23 Auditor's Annual Report**

**Date:** 11 September 2024

**Key decision:** No

**Class:** Part 1

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Contributors:** Terence Madgett, Chief Accountant

### **Outline and recommendations**

The purpose of this report is to:

- Update the committee with the management responses to the VFM recommendations to the Council that were part of the 2022/23 Auditors Annual Report.

The committee are recommended to:

- Note the contents of the report.

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the committee with the management responses to the VFM recommendations to the Council that were part of the 2022/23 Auditors Annual Report.

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Audit & Risk Committee are recommended to note the contents of the report.

## **3. Policy Context**

- 3.1 The report is consistent with the Council's policy framework, supporting the priorities set out in the Corporate Strategy 2022-26. It contributes towards all Council priorities through effective management of finance.

## **4. Background**

- 4.1 The Auditor's Annual report on London Borough of Lewisham Council was published by Grant Thornton in November 2023. It was presented to this committee on 06 December 2023. At that time the recommendations were still being considered by management.
- 4.2 Due to the cancellation of the last 2 Audit & Risk Committee meetings this is the first time that it has been possible to present the management responses to the audit recommendations to this committee.

## **5. Auditor's Annual Report 2022/23**

- 5.1 The Annual Report for 2022/23 covers the Value for Money (VFM) work required as part of the overall audit which was conducted by the auditors alongside completion of the Council's Statement of Accounts, Pension Fund Accounts and Annual Governance Statement audit. This is included in Appendix A to this report.
- 5.2 The Annual Report for 2022/23 also includes an action plan. This consists of several recommendations for the Council following their review of the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency, and effectiveness. These have been reviewed by management. The management responses to the recommendations are included in Appendix B to this report.
- 5.3 The recommendations have been added to the action tracker for progress with their implementation to be reported on as part of the Audit & Risk Committee standing agenda item.

## **6. Financial implications**

- 6.1 There are none arising direct from this report.

## **7. Legal implications**

- 7.1 There are none arising direct from this report.

## **8. Equalities implications**

- 8.1 There are none arising direct from this report.

## **9. Climate change and environmental implications**

- 9.1 There are none arising direct from this report.

## **10. Crime and disorder implications**

10.1 There are none arising direct from this report.

## **11. Health and wellbeing implications**

11.1 There are none arising direct from this report.

## **12. Background papers**

12.1 All relevant background papers are included as appendices or hyperlinks within.

## **13. Report author(s) and contact**

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## **14. Appendices**

14.1 Appendix A: Auditor's Annual Report on London Borough of Lewisham Council  
2022/23

14.2 Appendix B: Management responses to the recommendations made in the 2022/23  
Auditor's Annual Report