| Item No.<br>5.              | Classification:<br>Open | <b>Date:</b> 17 July 2023             | Meeting Name:<br>Audit, Governance and<br>Standards Committee |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Report title:               |                         | Governance review: Finance Department |   |
| Ward(s) or groups affected: |                         | All                                   |   |
| From:                       |                         | Strategic Director of Finance         |   |

#### RECOMMENDATION

1. That the audit, governance and standards committee notes the governance arrangements in place within the newly formed Finance department as part of the committee's ongoing review of governance within the council.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

2. On a cyclical basis, the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee will review each Chief Officer's operation to ensure risk is adequately mitigated and operations are managed with proportional but effective governance.

### **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

3. A summary of the governance arrangements in place within the Finance Department are included within the attached report. The Committee is reminded that the department only came together into a single entity in May 2023 and as a consequence some governance activities are at an early stage of development.

### Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts

### **Community impact statement**

4. This report and the accompanying accounts are not considered to have a direct impact on local people and communities. However, good financial management and reporting arrangements are important to the delivery of local services and to the achievement of outcomes. Furthermore, many of the service's operations have a direct impact on the residents and businesses of the borough.

## **Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement**

5. This report is not considered to contain any proposals that would have a significant equalities impact.

### **Health impact statement**

6. This report is not considered to contain any proposals that would have a

significant health impact.

# **Climate change implications**

7. This report is not considered to contain any proposals that would have a significant impact on climate change.

# **Resource implications**

8. There are no direct resource implications in this report.

## Consultation

9. n/a

## SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

10. None required.

## **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

### None

## **AUDIT TRAIL**

| Lead Officer                                      | Clive Palfreyman, Strategic Director of Finance |                        |                   |  |  |
|---|---|------------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Report Author                                     | Clive Palfreyman, Strategic Director of Finance |                        |                   |  |  |
| Version Final                                     |   |                        |                   |  |  |
| Dated   | 3 July 2023                                     |                        |                   |  |  |
| <b>Key Decision?</b>                              | No  |                        |                   |  |  |
| CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / |   |                        |                   |  |  |
| CABINET MEMBER                                    |   |                        |                   |  |  |
| Officer Title                                     |   | <b>Comments Sought</b> | Comments included |  |  |
| Assistant Chief Executive                         |   | No                     | N/A               |  |  |
| (Governance and                                   | Assurance)                                      |                        |                   |  |  |
| Strategic Director                                | of Finance                                      | N/A                    | N/A               |  |  |
| <b>Cabinet Member</b>                             |   | N/A                    | N/A               |  |  |
| <b>Date final report</b>                          | 5 July 2023                                     |                        |                   |  |  |