



**At the meeting of the Authority  
held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

Present:     **Cllr Page**  
              **Cllr Bell**  
              **Cllr Osundeko**  
              **Cllr Brown**  
              **Cllr Norris**  
              **Cllr Robertson-Collins**  
              **Cllr Martin**  
              **Cllr Gardner**

53.     **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Cllrs Nelson and Carlin.

54.     **Minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024**

**Resolved** the minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

55.     **Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers**

There were no declarations of interest.

56.     **Question(s) from Members under Procedural Rule 9**

There were no questions submitted by Members in accordance with Procedural Rule 9.

57.     **Question(s) from Members of the Public under Procedural Rule 10**

There were no questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with Procedural Rule 10.

58. **Motion proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15**

There were no motions proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15.

59. **WDA/31/24 Corporate Governance Report**

Members were Informed of the findings of the Annual Governance Assessment and the Improvement Action Plan for 2024/25. Members are also asked to approve the Annual Governance Statement for inclusion in the Statement of Accounts 2023/24.

**Resolved that:**

1. Members note the findings of the Annual Corporate Governance Assessment and approve the Improvement Action Plan for 2024/25;
2. Members approve the Code of Corporate Governance; and
3. Members approve the Annual Governance Statement and the Statement be signed by the Authority's representatives for inclusion in the Statement of Accounts 2023/24.

60. **WDA/32/24 Service Delivery Plan 2024/25**

Members were asked to note the progress made during 2023/24 in the delivery of the Corporate Plan

Members approve the proposed Service Delivery Plan for 2024/25.

**Resolved that:**

1. Members note the progress made in the delivery of the Corporate Plan during 2023/2024
2. The proposed Service Delivery Plan for 2024/25 was not approved at the meeting, it was determined that draft Plan be recirculated for approval via an Executive Decision.

61. **WDA/33/24 Update on Audit Recommendations**

Members are reminded that the external auditor's report in November 2021 included statutory recommendations for the Authority to respond to.

One of the recommendations was that Members receive a report on progress against the other recommendations until agreed actions were implemented, this report responds to that recommendation

**Resolved that:** Members note the Authority's progress in response to audit recommendations

62. **WDA/34/24 Internal Audit Report – Corporate Governance**

The Authority is required to maintain an effective Internal Audit as a part of its statutory governance arrangements.

The Authority's Internal Audit was provided by St Helens Council. The Auditor reviewed the arrangements at the Authority and reported to Members on any weaknesses and recommends improvements.

**Resolved that** Members note the contents of the report from the Internal Auditor