

## GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Governance Committee held at Council Chamber, County Hall, Lewes on 10 December 2024.

---

PRESENT Councillors Keith Glazier (Chair), Nick Bennett, Bob Bowdler, Johnny Denis, David Tutt and Christine Robinson

ALSO PRESENT Councillors Anne Cross, Godfrey Daniel, Roy Galley, Wendy Maples, Paul Redstone and Trevor Webb.

### 34. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 NOVEMBER 2024

34.1 RESOLVED – that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 13 November 2024 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### 35. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

35.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Collier. It was noted that Councillor Robinson was substituting for him.

### 36. REPORTS

36.1 Copies of the reports referred to below are included in the minute book.

### 37. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

37.1 The Committee considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive regarding an appointment to the East Sussex Energy, Infrastructure and Development Ltd (trading as 'Sea Change Sussex') Board and an appointment to the Hastings and Bexhill Renaissance Ltd Board.

37.2 The Committee RESOLVED to:

1) Appoint the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport as a Director on the East Sussex Energy, Infrastructure and Development Ltd ( trading as 'Sea Change Sussex') Board; and

2) Appoint the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport as a Director on the Hastings and Bexhill Renaissance Ltd Board.

### 38. LMG MANAGERS PAY 2024-2025

38.1 The Committee considered a report by the Chief Operating Officer regarding the pay award for Local Managerial Grade (LMG) Managers for 2024/25.

38.2 The Committee RESOLVED to agree the pay offer to LMG Managers for the financial year 2024/25 to mirror the national (NJC) award, as set out in paragraphs 2.5 and 2.6 of the report.

### 39. REVIEW OF ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REPORT & 2023/24 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

39.1 The Committee considered a report by the Chief Finance Officer regarding the Independent Auditor's, Grant Thornton (GT), report on the audit opinion on the 2023/24 Statement of Accounts.

39.2 The Committee RESOLVED to:

- 1) note the Independent Auditor's (Grant Thornton) Report to those charged with governance on the East Sussex County Council Statement of Accounts;
- 2) authorise the Chief Finance Officer to sign the formal Letter of Representation to GT UK LLP; and
- 3) approve the 2023/24 Statement of Accounts for publication.

### 40. SCRUTINY UPDATE

40.1 The Committee considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive that provided an overview of the scrutiny activity being undertaken by the People, Place and Health Overview Scrutiny Committees and an update on the work of the Audit Committee.

40.2 The Committee RESOLVED to note the updates on recent scrutiny and Audit Committee activity and the current work programmes at appendices 1-4 of the report.

### 41. CHIEF EXECUTIVE, CHIEF OFFICERS' AND DEPUTY CHIEF OFFICERS' PAY 2024/25

*[The Chief Executive, Chief Officers and Deputy Chief officers present at the meeting left the meeting prior to consideration of this item]*

41.1 The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Director, Human Resources and Organisation Development on the pay award for the Chief Executive, Chief Officers and Deputies for 2024/25.

41.2 The Committee RESOLVED (by 4 votes to 1) to agree the pay award for the Chief Executive, Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers for the financial year 2024/25 to mirror the national JNC pay awards as set out in paragraph 2.5 of the report.

*[Councillor David Tutt voted against the above resolution and Councillor Johnny Denis abstained from the vote]*