

# GOVERNANCE REVIEW IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND FINANCE MODERNISATION PROGRAMME

<b>Committee name</b>	Audit Committee
<b>Officers reporting</b>	Matthew Wallbridge, Chief Operating Officer
<b>Papers with report</b>	Governance Review Implementation Plan
<b>Ward</b>	N/A

## HEADLINES

The Governance Review Improvement Plan (GRIP) is Hillingdon Council's strategic response to identified governance areas for improvement. It aims to strengthen internal controls, clarify internal decision-making, and improve accountability -ensuring the Council is well-governed corporately, financially resilient, and transparent.

The Finance Modernisation Programme (FMP) is a significant transformation initiative by the London Borough of Hillingdon to review and strengthen the Council's financial systems, processes, and structures.

The Audit Committee will receive an update on progress with both items.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the work on the GRIP and the FMP be noted and the Committee seek any clarifications and assurances and provide comments to officers.**

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

At the last meeting the Committee were introduced to:

- a) the GRIP - a strategic programme launched by the London Borough of Hillingdon in March 2025 to address key governance weaknesses identified in several reviews and
- b) the FMP - initiated to address budget challenges and to modernise the Council's financial infrastructure. With the appointment of Grant Thornton in April 2025 to support this work, it's aim is to assist the Council in modernising its financial processes, strengthen its financial management, develop a modern finance function, and embed processes and controls in the Council's financial system, Oracle.

It was agreed that the Committee would receive an update on progress with the above at each subsequent meeting.

Relevant officers will provide an update on delivery.

BACKGROUND PAPERS: Nil