

| Independent Governance Review | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Title of Report | Independent Governance Review |
| For Consideration By | Council |
| Meeting Date | 24 January 2024 (Extraordinary Meeting) |
| Classification | Open |
| Ward(s) Affected | N/A |
| Group Director | Dawn Carter-McDonald, Interim Chief Executive |

1. Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to present the outcome of the non-statutory Independent Governance Review that was commissioned following conviction and sentencing of former Councillor Tom Dewey and the subsequent resignation of former Mayor Philip Glanville.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. **That Full Council notes the report on the Independent Governance Review conducted by Mr John Henderson and note the recommendations contained therein.**

3. Background

- 3.1. Following the conviction and sentencing of former Councillor Tom Dewey and the subsequent resignation of former Mayor Philip Glanville, an Independent Governance Review was commissioned by the Interim Chief Executive
- 3.2. The non-statutory review focused primarily on the formal aspects of governance and safeguarding, before looking more widely at the causal factors. The specific aims in the Terms of Reference were expressed in the following terms:
 - 3.2.1. To review the decisions and actions taken by the Council following notification from the National Crime Agency of the arrest of former Councillor Dewey.

3.2.2. To review the processes and guidance in place at the time for both Officers and Members.

3.2.3. To make any recommendations for improving the Council's processes and guidance based on the review's findings.

3.3. Mr John Henderson, was appointed to carry out the review. Mr Henderson has a broad and distinguished career in public service. Most recently, he served as Chief Executive of Staffordshire County Council for over eight years, leading the organisation through the pandemic. Prior to his role in local government, he served for over 30 years in the Army, ending his service as a Major General commanding the British Forces in Germany; in the 2014 New Year Honours List, he was appointed Companion of the Order of the Bath (CB).

3.4. Mr Henderson has now completed his review and a copy of his report appears at **Appendix 1** to this report.

4. **Comments of the Acting Group Director of Finance**

4.1. The costs of this Independent Governance Review are being met from existing budgets. Any subsequent review resulting from the recommendations of this report will also need to be met from existing budgets.

5. **Comments of the Acting Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services**

5.1. There are no legal implications arising directly from the content of this report.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Independent Governance Review, report by John Henderson

Background documents

None

| | |
|---|---|
| Report Author | Dawn Carter-McDonald Interim Chief Executive dawn.cartermcdonald@hackney.gov.uk |
| Comments for the Acting Group Director of Finance prepared by | Jackie Moylan Acting Group Director, Finance jackie.moylan@hackney.gov.uk |
| Comments for the Acting Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services prepared by | Louise Humphreys Acting Director, Legal, Democratic & Electoral Services louise.humphreys@hackney.gov.uk |