



Report Reference Number: A/17/24

Agenda Item No: 12

To: Audit and Governance Committee
Date: 19 April 2017
Author: Karen Iveson; Chief Finance Officer (s151)
Lead Officer: Karen Iveson; Chief Finance Officer (s151)

Title: Annual Governance Statement 2016/17 – Action Plan Review

Summary: To review progress on the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2016/17 Action Plan approved in July 2017.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that progress against the Action Plan for the Annual Governance Statement for 2016/17 be noted.

Reasons for recommendation:

To ensure the necessary actions have been carried out in accordance with the approved Annual Governance Statement and action plan.

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 Good governance is important to all involved in local government; however, it is a key responsibility of the Leader of the Council and of the Chief Executive.
- 1.2 The preparation and publication of an annual governance statement in accordance with the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework was necessary to meet the statutory requirements set out in Regulation 4(2) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations which requires authorities to “conduct a review at least once in a year of the effectiveness of its system of internal control” and to prepare a statement on internal control “in accordance with proper practices”.
- 1.3 To meet the requirement to review the AGS an Action Plan has been agreed and is subject to half yearly review by the Audit and Governance Committee.

2. The Report

- 2.1 The present Action Plan for review is attached as Appendix A. Progress against the approved action plan has been made although there are some actions on-going which will be monitored by Leadership Team over the months of the year in order to ensure actions are delivered to the agreed revised deadlines.

3. Legal/Financial Controls and other Policy matters

3.1. Legal Issues

- (a.) None.

3.2. Financial Issues

- (a.) None.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1. The AGS and scrutiny of the Action Plan represents progress towards setting the highest Corporate Governance standards and meets the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

5. Background Documents

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Appendices: **Appendix A – AGS 2015/16 Action Plan**