

**AUDIT COMMITTEE
23 JANUARY 2018**

PROGRESS UPDATE ON THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ACTION PLAN

Cabinet Member Cllr Clive Eginton, Leader
Responsible Officer Catherine Yandle, Group Manager Performance, Governance and Data Security

Reason for Report: To provide the Committee with an update on progress made against the Annual Governance Statement 2016/17 Action Plan.

RECOMMENDATION(S): The Committee note the progress update

Relationship to the Corporate Plan: Having good governance arrangements and an effective internal control environment is a fundamental element of being a well-managed council.

Financial Implications: None arising from this report.

Legal Implications: None arising from this report.

Risk Assessment: Failure to monitor progress against the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan could result in comment from the external auditors when they next review the Annual Governance Statement.

Equality Impact Assessment: No equality issues identified for this report.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Committee with an update on the progress that has been made against the actions in the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan since the Audit Committee approved it on 17 July 2017.
- 1.2 The Action Plan is attached as Appendix A and progress updates have been noted on the document.
- 1.3 Items 4 & 5 were combined but while progress has been made on 4 more work is needed and number 5, while desirable now, will not be a requirement until the 2017/18 financial statements in May 2018.
- 1.4 Two actions on the plan are overdue and have been re-scheduled (items 7 & 8); the staff charter (7) has been launched but will also be included in the staff induction training modules with ethics (8) which will be in place from 1 April.
- 1.5 The new Communication & Consultation Manager started on January 8, the two action points (10 & 11) regarding community engagement allocated to her for attention have a revised date for progress to be made by.

1.6 Six items are complete with three not yet due. A further progress report will be brought to the next Audit Committee meeting.

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Circulation of the Report: Management Team and Cllr Clive Eginton

List of Background Papers: None