

**AUDIT COMMITTEE  
16 NOVEMBER 2021**

**PROGRESS UPDATE ON THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ACTION PLAN**

**Cabinet Member** Cllr Bob Deed, Leader  
**Responsible Officer** Catherine Yandle, Operations Manager for Performance, Governance and Health & Safety

**Reason for Report:** To provide the Committee with an update on progress made against the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 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.

**Budget and Policy Framework:** 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.

**Impact on Climate Change:** No impacts 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 21 September 2021. Please note the Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21 still needs to be signed as approved with the Annual Accounts when the final Grant Thornton opinion is received.
- 1.2 The Action Plan is attached as Appendix A and progress updates have been noted on the document. There were 4 new issues identified in the 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement and 2 brought forward from 2019/20 which required remedial action.
- 1.3 1 action is now completed. Progress has been made on 4 of the other issues identified. There are no required actions which are over the target dates agreed.

1.4 Progress against the Action Plan is reported at each Audit Committee. There is a column for RAG status to make progress clearer. Amendments since the last report are shown as tracked changes so they are highlighted.

**Contact for more Information:** Catherine Yandle Group Manager Performance, Governance and Health & Safety ext 4975

**Circulation of the Report:** Leadership Team and Cabinet Member

**List of Background Papers:** None