
QUARTERLY GOVERNANCE PROGRESS REPORT

To: **Governance and Audit Committee – 13 December 2011**

Main Portfolio Area: **Business Services**

By: **Business Support and Compliance Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: Not applicable

Summary: To provide Governance and Audit Committee with a progress report on governance related issues.

For Information and Decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 This report provides Governance and Audit Committee with an update on governance related issues. The items covered in this report are:

- 2.1 Corporate risk register
- 2.2 Annual Governance Statement 2010/11 action plan
- 2.3 Governance Framework and Local Code of Corporate Governance annual review

2.0 The Current Situation

2.1 Corporate risk register

2.1.1 Attached at **annex 1** is a copy of the corporate risk register. Governance and Audit Committee need to be confident that the risk management process is being followed, such as ensuring reviews are being undertaken and target dates for implementing control measures are met.

2.2 Annual Governance Statement 2010/11 action plan

- 2.2.1 For the period 2010/11 the council prepared an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) which was agreed by Governance and Audit Committee on the 29 September 2011.
- 2.2.2 Within the Annual Governance Statement 2010/11 areas of concern identified from the numerous assessments into our governance arrangements were detailed within Section 6 'Significant governance issues'.
- 2.2.3 The council proposed to take steps to address these matters and report on the action plan to this Committee on a regular basis. The action plan is attached at **annex 2** for Members information.

2.3 Governance Framework and Local Code of Corporate Governance annual review

2.3.1 The Governance Framework (version 6) has undergone a review and is attached at **annex 3** with track changes for Members ease.

2.3.2 The Local Code of Corporate Governance (version 6) has also been reviewed and is attached at **annex 4**. The updates that have been made take into account any changes to processes, source documents or best practice guidelines, comments on actions throughout the previous year and any plans for improvement intended within the forthcoming period.

3.0 Options

3.1 That Members note the content of annex 1, the Corporate Risk Register and identify any issues on which they require more clarification.

3.2 That Members note the content of annex 2, the Annual Governance Statement 2010/11 action plan and identify any issues on which they require more clarification.

3.3 That Members approve the changes to the Governance Framework (annex 3) and Local Code of Corporate Governance (annex 4).

4.0 Corporate Implications

4.1 Financial

4.1.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

4.2 Legal

4.2.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

4.3 Corporate

4.3.1 The Annual Governance Statement Action Plan is a corporate document that addresses the areas of improvement identified as necessary through the Annual Governance Statement process.

4.4 Equity and Equalities

4.4.1 There are no equity or equalities issues arising from this report.

4.5 Risks

4.5.1 Failure to undertake these processes will impact on the council's approach to Corporate Governance.

5.0 Recommendation(s)

5.1 That Members note the content of annexes 1 and 2 and identify any issues on which they require more clarification.

5.2 That Members approve the changes to the Governance Framework and Local Code of Corporate Governance (annexes 3 and 4).

6.0 Decision Making Process

6.1 These recommendations do not involve the making of a key decision and may be taken by the Governance and Audit Committee.

Future Meeting if applicable:	Date: December 2012 (for annual review)
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Annex List

Annex 1	Corporate Risk Register
Annex 2	Annual Governance Statement 2009/10 action plan
Annex 3	Governance Framework (Version 5)
Annex 4	Local Code of Corporate Governance (Version 5)

Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
Annual Governance Statement 2009/10	Members Portal, Council website (www.thanet.gov.uk) and hard copy within Corporate Resources, first floor, Cecil Street Offices, Margate
Delivering Good Governance in Local Government guidance and framework (CIPFA / SOLACE documents)	Within Corporate Resources, first floor, Cecil Street Offices, Margate

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	Not applicable
Legal	Not applicable
Communications	Not applicable