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## **QUARTERLY GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ACTION PLAN**

To: **Audit & Governance Committee –17 March 2015**

Main Portfolio Area: **Corporate Resources**

By: **Paul Cook, Director of Corporate Resources**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All Wards**

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**Summary:** **The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the annual governance statement action plan.**

### **For Decision**

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#### **1.0 Introduction and Background**

1.1 This is a covering report for the annual governance statement action plan for 2014/15. This Action Plan includes the significant corporate issues that were raised as part of the Peer Review report on the governance of the council by the Local Governance Association.

1.2 The Improvement Plan also reports on a number of significant corporate issues relating to potential financial risks associated with on-going corporate legal and staffing matters.

#### **2.0 The Current Situation**

2.1 There are a number of action points with specific tasks that have been identified in the Improvement Plan in Annex 1 to the report; that if implemented would address the key corporate risk concerns indicated above.

#### **3.0 Options**

3.1 Members may wish to comment on the proposed action points and offer suggestions.

3.2 Members may wish to only note the report.

#### **4.0 Corporate Implications**

##### **4.1 Financial and VAT**

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

##### **4.2 Legal**

4.2.1 There are no legal issues 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 and equalities issues arising directly from this report.

#### 5.0 Recommendations

5.1 Members note the content of Annex 1 Improvement Action Plan and identify any issues on which they require more clarification.

#### 6.0 Decision Making Process

6.1 The Audit & Governance Committee can consider reports on corporate governance to ensure that appropriate governance procedures are being followed in managing the affairs of the Council.

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Reporting to:	Madeline Homer, Acting CEx

#### Annex List

Annex 1	Improvement Plan Action Points
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#### Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
Annual Governance Statement 2013/14	Minutes from Governance and Audit Committee Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2014.  <a href="http://democracy.thanet.gov.uk/documents/s37195/Annex%20-%20Annual%20Governance%20Statement%2013-14%20draft.pdf">http://democracy.thanet.gov.uk/documents/s37195/Annex%20-%20Annual%20Governance%20Statement%2013-14%20draft.pdf</a>

#### Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	Nicola Walker – Interim Head of Finance
Legal	Steven Boyle – Interim Legal Services Manager & Monitoring Officer
PR & Publicity	Hannah Thorpe, PR and Publicity Manager