

Annual Governance Statement

Governance and Audit Committee	4 th November 2024
By	Ingrid Brown- Head of Legal and Democracy
Cabinet Portfolio	Councillor Rob Yates
Key Decision	N/A
Decision classification	Unrestricted
Ward:	All

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 This Annual Governance Statement is brought before the Committee in accordance with the provisions of Part 3 of the Constitution, which includes the functions of the Governance and Audit Committee as:

'To approve the Authority's Annual Governance Statement'

1.2 The purpose of this report is to present the Annual Governance Statement for approval by the Committee.

2. Recommendation(s):

2.1 This report makes the following recommendations to the Governance and Audit Committee:

- a, To note the content of the Annual Governance Statement attached to this report at Annex 1.
- b, To approve the Annual Governance Statement attached to this report at Annex 1.
- c, To note the action plan annexed to this report at Annex 2

1. Summary of Reasons

1.1 Local Authorities are required to prepare and Annual Governance Statement in order to report publicly on the extent to which they comply with their own code of governance. This enables residents to receive information on the effectiveness of the Council's arrangements in this regard.

2. Background

2.1 The Annual Governance Statement has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Council's constitution referred to above and also in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The report is usually published alongside

the Council's Statement of Accounts but for capacity reasons is being published slightly later than usual.

3. Relevant Issues

3.1 The relevant issues are set out above. It is a requirement for the Council to publish and Annual Governance Statement which reports of the effectiveness of its governance framework.

4. Alternative Options

4.1 This report presents the Annual Governance Statement for 2023- 2024 to the committee. There is only one option which is to note and comment on the information provided.

5. Consultation

5.1 There is no statutory or public law duty to consult in relation to this matter.

6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Finance and Resources

6.1.1 This report is for noting and for approval and as such there are no financial implications arising.

6.2 Legal and Constitutional

6.2.1 The relevant legal and constitutional provisions are referred to in the body of this report. They require the Council to prepare and publish an Annual Governance Statement. The report attached at Appendix 1 complies with these requirements.

6.3 Council Policies and Priorities

6.3.1 This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -

- To work efficiently for you

6.4 Risk

6.4.1 This report presents the Annual Governance Statement, which as part of the Governance Framework sets out the controls in place to manage risks of failure in delivering corporate outcomes.

6.5 Climate Change and Biodiversity

6.5.1 This report is for noting and approval and there are no climate change of biodiversity implications.

7. Equality, Equity and Diversity Implications

7.1 There are no particular equalities implications arising from this report which is for noting and approval.

8. Crime and Disorder Implications and Community impact

8.1 This report is for noting and for approval and there are no crime and disorder implications nor will there be any impact on the community.

9.0 Subject History

9.1 The Annual Governance Statement has been previously considered and agreed by the Council's Corporate Management Team

Annexes

Annex 1- Annual Governance Statement

Annex 2- Action Plan

Background Papers

There are no background papers.

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Report Sign Off

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Finance