



**Governance and Audit
Committee**

Tuesday, 15 January 2019

**Subject: Periodic review of the Annual Governance Statement Action
Plan 2017/18**

Report by:

Executive Director of Resources

Contact Officer:

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Purpose / Summary:

To review the progress with the Annual
Governance Statement 2017/18 Action Plan.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Members seek assurance that the current position of the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan for 2017/18 will result in the completion of all relevant actions by July 2019.

IMPLICATIONS

Legal: The Annual Governance Statement details compliance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 as amended by the Accounts and Audit Regulations (amendment) (England) Regulations 2011.

Financial: FIN – 167 - 19 Actions included in the Annual Governance Statement will be covered by existing resources.

Staffing: The action plan details the staff that are responsible for specific actions

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights: None

Risk Assessment: Risk management arrangements are part of corporate governance and issues raised under the arrangements were included within the Annual Governance Statement for this period.

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities: None

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: Annual Governance Statement 2017/18 and Action Plan

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

Yes

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No

X

Key Decision:

Yes

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No

X

1. Information

- 1.1 The Annual Governance Statement is the formal statement of the quality of the Council's governance arrangements, in accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011.
- 1.2 In July 2018, the Governance and Audit Committee agreed the Annual Governance Statement for 2017/18 and noted that an action plan would be put in place and monitored by the Committee to address the significant issues.

2. Significant Issues 2017/18

- 2.1 The six significant issues that were identified for development were:
- i. **Commercialisation** – To ensure that related decision making and governance arrangements are effective and transparent and form part of the Monitoring Officer's oversight and reporting duties
 - ii. **Wellbeing Contract** – Implementation of the new service must be closely monitored, partnership working arrangements must be effective and the intended outcomes for service users must be understood and achieved
 - iii. **Review of Challenge & Improvement Committee** – To ensure that the Committee is effective in its operations and performs a robust scrutiny function
 - iv. **New Corporate Plan (2019-2023)** – The new Plan must clearly set out the strategic aims of the Council and the outcomes it seeks, based on the issues and opportunities facing the District
 - v. **PCI DSS Processes** – To achieve compliance with industry standards
 - vi. **Value for Money (VfM)** – To complete VfM assessments across service areas to enable senior management set clear priorities for improvement
- 2.2 These issues had been identified as a result of the Council's annual Combined Assurance Report, the need to carry-over matters contained within the 2016/17 Action Plan (Value for Money), or the key strategic importance of the issue to the Council.

3. The Action Plan

- 3.1 Progress is being made across all issues contained within the Action Plan. At this stage it is anticipated that all issues will be adequately addressed within the set timescales.
- 3.2 Further details are contained within the attached document.
- 3.3 Members will receive a further progress report in 2019.