

Audit Committee

Meeting Date	10 June 2015
Report Title	Annual Governance Statement
Cabinet Member	Duncan Dewar-Whalley, Cabinet Member for Finance
SMT Lead	Nick Vickers, Head of Finance
Head of Service	Nick Vickers, Head of Finance
Lead Officer	Nick Vickers, Head of Finance
Recommendations	1. To agree the Annual Governance Statement.

1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Council is required by statute to seek the agreement of the Audit Committee to the Annual Governance Statement.

2 Background

- 1.2 Whilst the production of an Annual Governance Statement is a statutory requirement its format is not specified. However, it has to meet certain requirements set out in the Chartered Public Finance and Accountancy/Society of Local Authority Chief Executives "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government" document and the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
- 1.3 This year's document is heavily revised to focus on the key control and governance processes in the Council. It is hoped that this approach will assist members of Audit Committee is taking assurance from the processes set out in the document about the effective operation of the control and governance processes.

3 Proposal

- 1.4 To agree the document attached in Appendix I.

4 Alternative Options

- 1.5 This is a statutory requirement.

5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

- 1.6 Key Officers in the Council responsible for governance and engagement have been consulted on the draft document.

6 Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	Supports the Council's objective of promoting good governance.
Financial, Resource and Property	Agreement of the AGS is a key part of the process for producing and agreeing the Council's statutory accounts.
Legal and Statutory	Need to comply with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations.
Crime and Disorder	None identified.
Sustainability	None identified.
Health and Wellbeing	None identified.
Risk Management and Health and Safety	The Council's approach to strategic risk management is one of the areas considered in the statement..
Equality and Diversity	None identified.

7 Appendices

The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report

- Appendix I: Annual Governance Statement

8 Background Papers

None