

Audit Committee	To follow report for Agenda Item: 6
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Meeting Date	21 June 2017
Report Title	Annual Governance Statement
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Duncan Dewar-Whalley, Cabinet Member for Finance & Performance
SMT Lead	Nick Vickers, Chief Financial Officer
Head of Service	Nick Vickers, Chief Financial Officer
Lead Officer	Nick Vickers, Chief Financial Officer

Recommendations	1. To agree the Annual Governance Statement.
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Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

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

2 Background

- 2.1 The actual format of the AGS is not specified. However, it has to be prepared to reflect good practice set out by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives in the document “Delivering Good Governance in Local Government” and the Accounts and Audit Regulations
- 2.2 SOLACE published an updated “Delivering Good Governance” document in late 2016. Cabinet agreed a revised Local Code of Governance on 14 June reflecting this update.
- 2.3 The publication of an Annual Governance Statement prepared in accordance with framework fulfils the requirement for a local authority to review annually the effectiveness of the system of internal control and to include a statement reporting on the review with its Statement of Accounts.

3 Proposal

- 3.1 To agree the AGS in the Appendix.

4 Alternative Options

- 4.1 This is a statutory requirement.

5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

- 5.1 Views have been sought from key Officers responsible for governance and engagement.

6 Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	Supports the objective of being a Council to be proud of.
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 Regulations (England)..
Crime and Disorder	Not applicable.
Sustainability	Not applicable.
Risk Management and Health and Safety	The approach to risk management is one of the areas considered in the AGS.
Equality and Diversity	Not applicable.
Sustainability	Not applicable.

7 Appendices

- 7.1 The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report
- Appendix I: Annual Governance Statement

8 Background Papers

- 8.1 None