

**ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT – FINAL DRAFT**

Committee: Audit Committee

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Report No: Y140

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**1.0 ISSUE**

- 1.1. Consideration of the final draft of the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2022/23.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1. Members are requested to approve the final draft of the Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23 for final sign off by the Leader of Council and Chief Executive.

**3.0 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1. The Audit Committee (ref: 16 October 2023, Agenda Item No. 8) received the first draft of the AGS and resolved to instruct the Chief Executive to bring forward the final draft for member consideration following an opportunity for all members of the Committee to provide comments and input.
- 3.2. The Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman, invited members and substitutes of the Committee to feedback comments by 15 December 2023.

**4.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS**

- 4.1. The Chief Executive received comments/input from two members and presents a final draft to the Committee for approval for sign off by the Leader of Council and Chief Executive.
- 4.2. The final draft (Appendix 1) and Appendix 2 has been revised to take account of these comments (where appropriate) questions and answers from members at the last Committee meeting (amendments shown as italics). A summary of the comments of individual members are attached in Appendix 3 with the appropriate action taken by the Chief Executive in relation to the AGS.

**5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS / EQUALITY IMPACT STATEMENT / CARBON IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

5.1. There are no requirements to report on these matters to Committee for this agenda item.

**6.0 APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 Annual Governance Statement (Final Draft) 2022/23

Appendix 2 Progress against 2022/23 Actions

Appendix 3 Summary of member comments and Chief Executive response

**Background Documents:**

Audit Committee 16 October 2023

Agenda Item 8