

DECISION-MAKER:	AUDIT COMMITTEE
SUBJECT:	ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2010-11: ACTION PLAN STATUS REPORT
DATE OF DECISION:	6 DECEMBER 2011
REPORT OF:	HEAD OF FINANCE
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
Not applicable.	

BRIEF SUMMARY

In accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations the Council is required to develop and publish an Annual Governance Statement ('AGS'). The AGS is a key corporate document and should provide an accurate representation of the corporate governance arrangements in place during the year and highlight those areas where gaps or improvements are required.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) To note the content of the AGS 2010-11 Action Plan Status document set out in the Appendix to this report.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Audit Committee has responsibility to provide independent assurance to the Standards and Governance Committee on the adequacy of the risk management framework and the internal control and reporting environment, including (but not limited to) the reliability of the financial reporting process and the annual governance statement. This responsibility extends to receiving assurance that the actions identified to address those areas where improvement is required are being satisfactorily progressed or implemented.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2. No alternative options have been considered.

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

3. The updated Action Plan Status document has been developed in consultation with those 'lead officers' previously identified as being responsible for progressing the agreed actions.
4. The action plan provides information on the current status of the agreed actions.
5. The purpose of the AGS is to provide an accurate representation of the corporate governance arrangements in place during the year and to identify or highlight any areas where gaps or improvements are required. Although the AGS is published with the authority's financial statements it is concerned with the overall corporate governance arrangements and is not confined to financial issues.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

6. None.

Property/Other

7. None.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

8. The Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 require the Council to adopt Good Governance arrangements in respect of the discharge of its functions. The above arrangements are intended to meet those responsibilities.

Other Legal Implications:

9. None.

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

10. None.

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KEY DECISION? No

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	n/a
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Non-confidential appendices are in the Members' Rooms and can be accessed on-line

Appendices

1.	AGS 2010-11 Action Plan Status Report
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Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	
2.	

Integrated Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) to be carried out.	No
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Other Background Documents

Integrated Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s) Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1.	N/A	
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