



AUDIT & ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
30 July 2019

ITEM 7

Report sponsor: Strategic Director of Corporate Resources
Report author: Head of Internal Audit

Annual Governance Statement 2018/19

Purpose

- 1.1 The Council has to publish an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) to accompany the annual accounts in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. This is produced following the completion of an annual review of the Council's governance arrangements.
- 1.2 The preparation and publication of the AGS is in accordance with the CIPFA/SOLACE "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government" framework.

Recommendations

- 2.1 To approve the Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 at Appendix 1.
- 2.2 To request that the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive sign the Certification on page 26 of the Annual Governance Statement.

Reasons

- 3.1 Approval and publication of an AGS by the City Council is a statutory requirement and provides evidence that the Council maintains high standards of governance and addresses significant shortcomings and risks.

Supporting information

- 4.1 The Council is required by regulation 6 (1) (b) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 to publish an annual governance statement ("AGS") and approve the annual governance statement as required by regulation 6 (2).
- 4.2 The AGS should be prepared in accordance with "proper practices". Proper practices relate to guidance set out in the CIPFA/SOLACE publication "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework" and supporting guidance associated with this.

4.3 The AGS for 2018/19 must be published alongside the statement of accounts when they receive final approval, by no later than 31 July 2019. However, the AGS needs to be current at the time of final approval of the accounts. Therefore any changes to the Council's governance framework that have taken place since this Committee's approval of the draft AGS at its June meeting and the approval of the statement of accounts at this meeting are reflected in this final AGS.

4.4 The key changes to the AGS since the Committee's June meeting are:

Page 6 (How do we monitor.....) – addition of the wording “*with risk surgeries to explore areas in more detail*” to the fifth bullet point.

Page 20 (A52 Wyvern Transport Improvement Scheme) – additional sentence “The delegated approval limits for the project were reviewed and updated in Autumn 2018” added to the second paragraph on this page.

Page 20 (A52 Wyvern Transport Improvement Scheme) – Two new paragraphs (paragraphs four and five on this page) added to the section.

Page 21 – Updated title of NHS Foundation Trust.

Page 21 (What were the key governance developments....) – new bullet point (bullet 3) on risk surgeries.

Page 24 (What are our key governance development priorities...) – Delivering for Derby diagram updated.

Page 24 (What are our key governance development priorities...) - Second bullet point on the A52 Scheme expanded to include further detail on the independent assurance work Internal Audit has planned in 2019/20.

Public/stakeholder engagement

5.1 None

Other options

6.1 None

Financial and value for money issues

7.1 None

Legal implications

8.1 As detailed in paragraph 4.1 of the main body of this report.

Other significant implications

9.1 None

This report has been approved by the following people:

| Role | Name | Date of sign-off |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Legal | | |
| Finance | | |
| Service Director(s) | | |
| Report sponsor | Don McLure, Strategic Director of Corporate Resources | 15 July 2019 |
| Other(s) | | |

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| Background papers: | None |
| List of appendices: | Appendix 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 |