



Derby City Council

Audit and Accounts Committee
6 July 2016

ITEM 10

Joint Report of the Director of Governance and
the Head of Governance and Assurance

Annual Governance Statement 2015/16 – First Draft

SUMMARY

- 1.1 Production and publication of an Annual Governance Statement is a statutory requirement.
- 1.2 The 2015/16 Statement reflects the on-going work within the Council to improve its governance framework.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To review and comment on the draft Annual Governance Statement 2015/16 at Appendix 2.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Council has to publish an Annual Governance Statement to accompany the annual accounts.

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")
- 4.2 Regulation 10 (1) states that the Council must, after approving the statement of accounts in accordance with regulation 9(2) but not later than 31st July of the financial year immediately following the end of the financial year to which the statement relates, publish (which must include publication on the authority's website)—
 - a) the statement of accounts together with any certificate or opinion, entered by the local auditor in accordance with section 20(2) of the Act;
 - b) the annual governance statement approved in accordance with regulation 6(2);

- 4.3 However, there are transitional provisions that apply as per regulation 21 which states that :
In relation to the financial years beginning in 2015 and 2016, these Regulations apply with the following modifications -
(a) in regulation 10, paragraph (1) is to be read as if for “31st July” there were substituted “30th September”.
- 4.4 To adhere to the Regulations, Members are presented with a draft AGS for review and comment at this meeting. The final version will be brought to the September meeting.
- 4.5 As with the previous year's AGS, the 2015/16 statement has been written on the basis that the Council is currently reviewing its governance framework in light of the issues raised in the 2013/14 and 2014/15 statements. This has meant that the review of effectiveness is limited to those statutory areas of the framework. The focus of the AGS is on the work being done to assess and improve the Council's governance framework.
- 4.6 The final AGS will need to reflect the Public Interest report published on 16 June 2016 and the Improvement Plan that has since been produced. The draft AGS has been produced prior to Full Council debating the Public Interest Report and the associated actions required.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Estates/Property officer Service Director(s) Other(s)	n/a n/a n/a n/a n/a Governance Working Group, Chief Officer Group
For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Janie Berry, Director of Legal & Democratic Services Tel: 01332 643616 janie.berry@derby.gov.uk Richard Boneham, Head of Governance & Assurance Tel: 01332 643280 richard.boneham@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 - Annual Governance Statement 2015/16

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 None arising from this report

Legal

- 2.1 As detailed in paragraph 4.1.

Personnel

- 3.1 None arising from this report

IT

- 4.1 None arising from this report

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 None arising from this report

Health and Safety

- 6.1 None arising from this report

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.1 None arising from this report

Property and Asset Management

- 8.1 None arising from this report

Risk Management

- 9.1 The effective management of risk is a core principle of good governance.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 10.1 The governance framework underpins the achievement of the Council's objectives.

