

Committee: Performance Select Committee
Date: 17 November 2009
Title: Annual Governance Statements 2008/09
and 2009/10

Agenda Item

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Item for
Information

Summary

- 1 The purpose of this report is to present a timetable for the review and monitoring of the significant control and governance issues identified in the 2008/09 Annual Governance Statement and for the preparation of the 2009/10 Statement.

Recommendations

- 2 None

Background Papers

- 3 Previous Annual Governance Statements reports to this committee
The Annual Governance Statement 2008-09

Impact

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Communication/Consultation	This report has been circulated to the Strategic Management Board
Community Safety	None identified
Equalities	None identified
Finance	None identified
Human Rights	None identified
Legal implications	This is a requirement set out in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 as amended by the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006 in relation to the publication of an Annual Governance Statement.
Sustainability	None identified

Ward-specific impacts	None identified
Workforce/Workplace	None identified

Situation

- 5 Under the Council's constitution this committee is responsible for overseeing the Council's work around corporate governance. In 2007/08 the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) revised the approach to corporate governance and published a new framework for good governance. This builds on the current assurance gathering process but it requires a lot more descriptive detail to be included in the actual Statement.

The Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2008/09 was published as part of the Statement of Accounts 2008/09 approved by the previous meeting of this Committee.

Annual Governance Statement 2008-09

- 6 In the Annual Governance Statement 2008-09, the Council identified one significant control and governance issue which needed to be addressed.

In addition there were two residual significant control and governance issues from the 2007-08 AGS which required further action to improve control and governance throughout the Council.

The AGS Working Group has reviewed the significant control and governance issues and to ensure action is taken on these issues have drawn up a Management Action Plan, attached as Appendix A to this report.

Annual Governance Statement 2009-10

- 7 CIPFA guidelines are that the AGS should be reviewed at least once a year but should not be seen simply as an end of year activity to comply with legislation. To this end we have drawn up the timetable for the review and monitoring of control and governance issues identified in the 2008-09 Annual Governance Statement and for the preparation of the 2009-10 Statement, attached as Appendix A to this report.

Risk Analysis

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
No Annual Governance Statement is produced for inclusion in the Financial Accounts	1 = Little or no likelihood Timetable and Framework to be established for the review, monitoring and preparation of the Annual Governance Statement	3 = Significant impact – action required Statutory requirement, adverse Audit Commission Report	The Annual governance Statement is reviewed by the Audit Commission and by the Performance Select Committee