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**DRAFT ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2015/16**

Committee: Corporate Governance & Finance Committee

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016

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[R45]

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1.0 **ISSUE**

- 1.1 To consider the draft Annual Governance Statement for the financial year 2015/16.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 That the draft Annual Governance Statement for the financial year 2015/16 be noted.

3.0 **BACKGROUND/OPTIONS**

- 3.1 The Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015 requires the Council to conduct at least annually a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework, including the system of internal control, and to prepare an Annual Governance Statement for publication alongside the Council's Accounts.
- 3.2 Key elements to the production of this draft version of the Annual Governance Statement are the annual review of the Council's Code of Corporate Governance, which is based on best practice contained within CIPFA/SOLACE guidance and the Internal Audit Annual Report and Opinion.
- 3.3 Section 5 of the draft Annual Governance Statement highlights the significant governance issues arising from the review of the governance arrangements and the actions planned to address the weaknesses identified. These have been discussed with the Council's Management Team and appropriate actions to address the issues raised have been agreed.
- 3.4 This draft Annual Governance Statement will be subject to review by the External Auditors and a final version will be presented to the September meeting of this Committee for approval and sign off by the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council.

4.0 **ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS**

- 4.1 This draft Annual Governance Statement indicates how the Council is complying with its Code of Corporate Governance including internal control arrangements. The suggested action plan detailed in Section 5 of the

Statement will address the significant governance issues identified by the review.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 There are no additional financial implications arising from this report.

5.2 Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) not required.

6.0 APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2015/16.

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**Background Documents**

Delivering good  
governance in Local  
Government –  
CIPFA/SOLACE

**Location**

Room 207  
The Grange,  
Ely

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