
Annual Governance Statement

To: Finance & Assets Committee

Date: 25th July 2019

From: Chief Internal Auditor, LGSS

[U37]

1. ISSUE

- 1.1. This report presents the final version of the Annual Governance Statement for 2018/19 for consideration by the Finance & Assets Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1. To approve the Annual Governance Statement for 2018/19.

3. BACKGROUND/OPTIONS

- 3.1. The Audit and Account Regulations 2015 requires the Council to produce an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) to accompany the Statement of Accounts. The AGS summarises the extent to which the Council is complying with its Code of Corporate Governance and details, as appropriate, any significant actions needed to improve the governance arrangements in the year ahead.
- 3.2. The draft AGS was considered by the Corporate Management Team, and then presented to this Committee on 20th June 2019 in order to ensure that it reasonably reflects the Committee's knowledge and experience of the Council's governance and controls. One minor amendment has been made on page 10 of the document to correctly reflect the number of elected members for the municipal year 2019/20. The final AGS is signed by the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council and is published on the Council's website.
- 3.3. The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require AGS that the final version of the AGS is approved by the Finance & Assets Committee in advance of the Statement of Accounts.
- 3.4. The AGS has been compiled using sources of evidence, including:
- A review of the extent to which the Council has complied with each element of its Code of Corporate Governance;
 - Self-assurance statements prepared by Service Leads; and,
 - The Chief Internal Auditor's opinion on the Council's internal control environment, which was reported to this Committee on 20th June 2019.
- 3.5. The AGS is prepared in accordance with guidance from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance (CIPFA) and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE).
- 3.6. There are no significant governance issues identified from this review.
4. ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS
- 4.1. The AGS has been prepared, in accordance with professional guidance, and must accompany the Statement of Accounts. This Committee has previously approved the draft AGS on 29th June 2019.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1. There are no additional financial implications arising from this report. An Equality Impact Assessment is not required.

6. APPENDICES

6.1. Appendix 1 – Annual Governance Statement

Background Documents

Location

Contact Officer

None

LGSS,
Room 207
The Grange
Ely

Duncan Wilkinson,
Chief Internal Auditor
duncan.wilkinson@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Rachel Ashley-Caunt
Head of Internal Audit
RAshley-Caunt@rutland.gov.uk

Trevor Bowd
Principal Auditor
trevor.bowd@eastcambs.gov.uk