

Audit & Standards Committee

2019/20 Annual Governance Statement

28 September 2020

1. Recommendation

That the Committee endorses the 2019/20 Annual Governance Statement prior to submission to Council for approval.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report presents the 2019/20 Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for endorsement at Appendix 1.
- 2.2 The consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic led to an April 2020 amendment to the Accounts & Audit Regulations, altering the statutory timetable for the production and publication of the AGS alongside the Financial Statements by 30 November.
- 2.3 It has been assessed, as a result of the AGS evaluation and assurance gathering process, that there are no significant governance issues or governance failures to report.
- 2.4 The results of the review and the draft AGS were considered and endorsed by the Audit and Standards Committee at its meeting on 20 July. Since then, the draft AGS has been kept in view, including an External Audit review with no updates required. The draft AGS was then presented to Cabinet for consideration on 10 September and endorsed without further amendment.

3. Financial Implications

None

4. Environmental Implications

None

5. Supporting Information

None

6. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 6.1 The AGS preparation and approval process to date is set out at 2.3 and 2.4.
- 6.2 The AGS will be submitted to Council, alongside the Council's financial statements, for approval and certification on 13 October 2020.

Appendices

1. Appendix 1 Draft 2019-20 Annual Governance Statement

Background Papers

None

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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s):

Other members: