

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Corporate Governance Committee – 26th March 2018

Corporate Governance Action Plan Update

This matter is the responsibility of Cllr Richard Parrish, Lead Member for Resources

Report Author: Richard Doyle, Corporate Strategy & Performance Officer

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report provides an update of progress against the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan for 2017/18.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that:-

- The committee Members are asked to note current progress in relation to completing the actions identified within the Annual Governance Statement.

3 Risk Assessment

Risk Matrix

Description	Likelihood	Impact	Overall
There is the general risk that if the Council fails to keep its controls and governance arrangements under review they could cease to be appropriate and lead to uncontrolled exposure to high level strategic and operational risks.	Feasible (3)	Major (4)	Medium (12)
<i>The mitigation for this will be for the Council to formally review the internal controls for governance of its affairs, identify opportunities for improvement and implement these.</i>	Unlikely (2)	Significant (3)	Low (6)

4 Background and Full details of the Report

- 4.1 The Annual Governance Statement (AGS) is a statutory document which provides assurance on the governance arrangements in place within the Council. The statement is produced following a review of the council's governance arrangements.

4.2 The AGS includes an action plan to address any new governance issues identified by the Corporate Governance Officers Group; relying on reports from internal and external audit as well as their own understanding of the organisation.

5 The Action Plan

5.1 The action plan is set out in Appendix A.

6 Links to Corporate Aims / Priorities

6.1 There are no direct links to corporate aims/priorities although good governance (of which risk management is a part) underpins good performance.

6 Finance / Resource Implications

6.1 None – this is a governance matter.

7 Legal Implications

7.1 Regulation 4 of The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 requires that the Council must conduct a review at least once a year of the effectiveness of its systems of internal control and committee must approve an annual governance statement, prepared in accordance with proper practices in relation to internal control.

8 Environmental Impact Implications

8.1 There are no direct environmental risks within this report.

9 Safeguarding and/or Community Safety Implications

9.1 There are no safeguarding and /or community safety implications associated with this report.

10 Equality and Diversity Implications

10.1 There are no equality and diversity implications associated with this report.

11 Social Value Implications

11.1 There are no Social Value risks associated with this report.

12 Partnership Implications

12.1 There are no direct partnership implications associated with this report.

13 Health and Wellbeing Implications

13.1 There are no direct health and wellbeing risk associated with this report.

14 Asset Management Implications

14.1 Risk 5 identifies a risk in relation to asset management.

15 Consultation Implications

15.1 There are no Consultation implications associated with this report.

Democratic Path:

- Corporate Governance Committee - Yes
- Corporate Scrutiny – No
- Executive – No
- Full Council – No

Reporting Frequency: Twice yearly

List of Appendices

Appendix A	AGS Action Plan 2017/18
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Contact Officers

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Appendix A

Annual Governance Statement - Action Plan for 2017/18

	Action now planned for 2017/18	Timescale for Completion	Responsible Officer	Monitoring Body	Progress
1	Review our approach to the Risk Management culture. Research and consider risk appetite statements, improving manager's perception of risk and taking into account good practice elsewhere.	March 2018	AD Corporate Services	Corporate Governance Officer Group	With the design of the new framework for behaviours as part of the Transformation Programme, we are developing a risk management culture as part of the transition. The recent launch of the consultation on the staff restructure highlighted the need to empower staff to improve their perception of risk and to become risk takers. Also as part of the 18/19 Audit Plan there will be an audit on "Healthy organisation" which will assess risk management arrangements.
2	To prepare the Corporate Governance process for Transformation and the possibility of a new Council	March 2018	AD Strategic Finance and S151 Officer & Assistant Chief Executive	Corporate Governance Officer Group	There is a 'New Council' work stream as part of the overall Transformation Programme with a designated Governance Project to develop a proposed governance structure and constitution for the new council should it be established. Overall timescale of having a new authority up and running for elections in May 2019 is still on track.

