

Somerset West and Taunton Council

Audit and Governance Committee – 22 March 2022

Annual Governance Statement Action Plan Update

This matter is the responsibility of the Leader of the Council, Cllr Federica Smith-Roberts

Report Author: Amy Tregellas, Governance Manager

1 Executive Summary / Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To present the Committee with an update of progress against the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan for 2020/21 (Appendix A).

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the progress against the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan for 2020/21.

3 Risk Assessment

- 3.1 Failure to have robust governance arrangements in place could impact on the Council's control environment and ability to operate in an economic, efficient and effective manner. This could lead to recommendations being made by Internal and External Audit.

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 and control environment within the Council.
- 4.2 The Statement is prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)/Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) guidance and a review of the Council's governance arrangements.
- 4.3 The Annual Governance Statement includes an Action Plan to address any governance issues identified during the review of the Council's governance arrangements.
- 4.4 In order to ensure that the actions are being delivered it is important that the Committee review progress against the Action Plan, hence this report.

4.5 The Committee are asked to note this report.

5 Links to Corporate Strategy

5.1 Having a robust, effective and efficient governance framework in place is a fundamental element of being a 'well managed' council and avoiding recommendations from Internal and External Auditors.

6 Finance / Resource Implications

6.1 None arising from this report

7 Legal Implications

7.1 None arising from this report

8 Climate and Sustainability Implications

8.1 None arising from this report

9 Safeguarding and/or Community Safety Implications

9.1 None arising from this report

10 Equality and Diversity Implications

10.1 None arising from this report

11 Social Value Implications

11.1 None arising from this report

12 Partnership Implications

12.1 None arising from this report

13 Health and Wellbeing Implications

13.1 None arising from this report

14 Asset Management Implications

14.1 None arising from this report

15 Data Protection Implications

15.1 None arising from this report

16 Consultation Implications

16.1 None arising from this report

Democratic Path:

- **Audit and Governance Committee – Yes**
- **Cabinet/Executive – No**
- **Full Council – No**

Reporting Frequency: adhoc

List of Appendices (delete if not applicable)

Appendix A	Annual Governance Statement Action Plan Progress Report
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