



AUDIT COMMITTEE - 14TH JUNE 2017

SUBJECT: DRAFT ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR 2016/17

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES & S151 OFFICER

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To allow Members the opportunity to review the draft Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2016/17 and make any changes that they feel are required and justifiable.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report presents the Draft Annual Governance Statement for 2016/17 which has been updated since 2015/16 particularly in respect of the areas for improvement.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 This report deals with Corporate Governance, which is fundamental to the efficient and effective running of Council business and contributes to the following Well-being Goals within the Well-being of Future Generations(Wales) Act 2015:
- *A prosperous Wales*
 - *A resilient Wales*

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Attached as Appendix 1 is the draft Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2016/17 to allow Members to consider and make comments. The previous year's AGS is attached as Appendix 2 to allow Members to compare year on year.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 This report contributes to the Well-being Goals as set out in Links to Strategy above based on the following:-
- Good governance should lead to sound decision making along with appropriate scrutiny.
 - Good decisions should lead to better long term outcomes and value for money.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no direct equalities implications stemming from this report on any group identified in Section 6 of the Council's Strategic Equality Plan, therefore an impact assessment has not been carried out.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no additional financial implications in respect of the preparation of the AGS.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no personnel implications in respect of the preparation of the AGS.

9. CONSULTATIONS

9.1 The draft AGS has been considered by the Corporate Governance Panel and discussed at a Corporate Management Team meeting. All comments have been reflected in the draft AGS attached.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 Members are requested to consider the draft AGS and advise and agree any changes that they feel can be justified.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 To ensure that the Authority is continually improving its governance arrangements.

Author: Nicole Scammell, Acting Director of Corporate Services & S151 Officer
Consultees: Corporate Management Team
Councillor B Jones, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Governance
Gail Williams, Acting Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
Richard Harris, Internal Audit Manager
Paul Lewis, Acting Head of IT
Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection
Steve Harris, Interim Head of Corporate Finance
Joanne Jones, Corporate Information Governance Manager

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Draft Annual Governance Statement for 2016/17

Appendix 2: Annual Governance Statement for 2015/16