

**Extract from Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting 20 June 2012**

14 **Annual Governance Statement 2011-2012**

Ian Gibbons, Monitoring Officer, presented the draft Annual Government Statement for 2011-2012, a required part of the annual review of the effectiveness of the Council's governance arrangements, which would proceed to Cabinet, then Standards Committee, before returning to the Audit Committee for final approval.

The Monitoring Officer took the Committee through the report, highlighting key issues including the following:

- IT Control Environment;
- Safeguarding and Looked After Children Services
- Implementation of the Transformation Programme
- Managing reductions in Government funding and legislative changes.

A debate followed, during which the points including the following were raised:

- The extent of detail on the Health and Well Being Board and Police and Crime Panel;
- The inclusion of the positive statements from the recent Ofsted Inspection Report as well as the negative;
- More detailed information should be provided in the report regarding the implementation of the Transformation programme.
- There should be a concentration on IT for the Audit Committee in future.
- The Governance Assurance Group met monthly to consider governance issues and would report further details in September.

At the conclusion of discussion, it was,

**Resolved:**

**To note that the draft Annual Governance Statement will be revised in light of the comments of the Committee and ongoing review work by the Governance Assurance Group, before being considered by Cabinet, then the new Standards Committee, before final approval from the Audit Committee and publication by 30 September 2012.**