

Wiltshire Council

Audit Committee

12 February 2020

Subject: Governance action update

Executive Summary

The Annual Governance Statement for Wiltshire Council demonstrates how the Council is meeting the principles of good governance adopted in its Local Code of Corporate Governance (LCCG). Following the adoption of a revised LCCG by council last year, this report provides a first update on the current status of improvement actions identified in the Annual Governance Statement for 2019.

Proposal(s)

Audit Committee is asked to consider the current status of improvement actions identified in Annual Governance Statement, as set out at **Appendix 1**.

Reason for Proposal

In considering the draft Local Code of Corporate Governance, Audit Committee agreed to receive quarterly updates on the implementation of improvement actions identified in the Annual Governance Statement. Consideration of these actions will inform the development of the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) that the council is required to produce for 2019/20.

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Purpose of Report

1. To consider the current status of improvement actions identified in the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and emerging themes to capture in the AGS for 2020.

Background

2. Wiltshire Council agreed a revised Local Code of Corporate Governance last year.
3. In considering the draft Local Code of Corporate Governance, Audit Committee agreed to receive regular updates on the implementation of improvement actions identified in the Annual Governance Statement. Consideration of these actions will inform the development of the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) that the council is required to produce for 2019/20.

Main Considerations

4. In last year's Annual Governance Statement the Council identified a number of areas where further improvements could be made to strengthen its governance framework. It should be noted that these areas are not to be regarded as failures, rather examples of issues where scope for further improvement has been identified. In many cases, work is already well underway to address these areas for improvement. The governance of the Council continues to be monitored by Cabinet, Audit and other councillor committees and the Council's Corporate Leadership Team.
5. As such, a quarterly update on progress with these actions is included at **Appendix 1**. This document will be kept live and updated and inform the development of the AGS for 2020.

Report Authors:

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Appendices

Appendix 1 Quarterly LCCG AGS update