Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 Current Status of Improvement Actions Quarterly Update to Audit and Governance Committee: April 2021

Principle A: Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law

AGS improvement actions	Current Status	
Deliver policy and training to embed social	Our work on Organisational Recovery will	AB
value across the council	ensure we strengthen alignment between	JH
	policy development and spending with	
	third parties across the Council, and	
	establish a culture, to maximise the	
	delivery of tangible social, economic and	
	environmental outcomes through	
	commercial activity. We will take a	
	targeted and data driven approach to	
	such policy application to ensure that we	
	focus efforts on those areas where	
	maximum benefits can be achieved; we	
	will supplement this by providing support,	
	training and tools, to help people	
	throughout the Council to deliver defined	
	& tangible benefits for the people of	
	Wiltshire	
Promote with staff 'EPIC values' (Empowering	Complete	JP
People to Innovate and Collaborate) and an		PM
updated code of conduct, replacing the		
previous Behaviours framework		

Principle B - Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement

AGS improvement actions	Current Status	
Implement a new VCS strategy and review the	A new VCS strategy was drafted before	JG
Wiltshire Compact	the COVID pandemic. The principles of	
	openness and comprehensive	
	stakeholder engagement have been	
	embedded into the partnership work of	
	response and recovery. The	
	Neighbourhood cell led this initially and	
	leadership continued through the	
	Community Resilience recovery group	
	bringing together Community Partners,	
	VCS, Strategic partners and the Council.	
	Wessex Community Action are leading a	
	developmental evaluation exercise to	
	assess the impact of the Community	
	Resilience Partnership work during the	
	pandemic. This work will inform how the	
	Council learn lessons from the pandemic	
	and work with the VCS in future.	

Principle C - Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits

AGS improvement actions	Current Status	
Pilot a multi-year outcome-based planning process aligned to budget build (when spending reviews permit)	The delay in a multi-year spending review until 2021 means the process will be piloted during 2021 ready for 2022/23, following the outcome of the local elections.	AB
Review approach to service delegation and asset transfer and One Public Estate	A review of the benefit of the asset transfer and service devolution programme has taken place. The future approach will be informed by the review. One public estate opportunities will be identified as part of the asset rationalisation programme and early progress has already been made in that respect.	AB SH

Principle D - Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of intended outcomes

AGS improvement actions	Current Status	
Review the effectiveness of the commercial	Elements of the Council's Capital	SH
policy and current commissioning	Programme around commercial investment	нн
approaches.	were deferred while others are progressing.	
	The Council's appetite for commercial	
	investment, given the current economic	
	state, will be wrapped up as part of the	
	recovery work. Recent government controls	
	on use of PWLB borrowing has prevented	
	commercial investment. There will be a	
	need to review the commercial policy in	
	light of changing government policy.	
	c.,	
	The governance of the council owned	AB
	companies, Stone Circle, is being reviewed	IG
	and a report will be taken to Cabinet in July	
	2021.	
Embed good commissioning and contract	Procurement are reviewing information and	AB
management as part of staff job	will liaise with HR Business Partner to	JH
descriptions.	discuss – current action is with	
	Procurement	

Principle E - Developing capacity, including the capability of the Council's leadership and the individuals within it

AGS improvement actions	Current Status	
Rollout training and awareness on decision	Guidance is being drafted, subject to review	IG
making processes	by Corporate Governance Group, before	JP
	discussion at CLT/ELT and development of	MD
	training material. A comprehensive	MN
	councillor induction and development	
	programme has been prepared for all	
	councillors to benefit from following local	
	elections.	
Work with partners to complete a multi-	A full multi-agency debrief was not taken	КВ
agency evaluation of the response to the	forward before response was reactivated	EP
pandemic	for the second wave – this will be	MN
	considered during 2021. As part of the	
	ongoing management of outbreaks and	
	situations the Local Outbreak Management	
	Plan has been updated. This used multi-	
	agency feedback and wider regional Sector-	
	Led Improvement work to ensure an	
	effective continued response to the	
	changing nature of the pandemic.	

Principle F – Managing risks and performance through robust internal controls and strong public financial management

AGS improvement actions	Current Status	
Review how performance can be	A new approach to communication of	MN
communicated to the public to deliver	performance as well as publishing open data	
maximum openness and transparency	will be developed and delivered as part of	
	the BI Development programme and SAP	
	Evolve project.	

Principle G - Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting and audit to deliver accountability

AGS improvement actions	Current Status	
Align organisational processes more closely	An outcome-based process has been	AB
to the outcomes in the Business Plan to	developed with the intention of informing a	MN
ensure a focus on the resources used and	three year budget. The delay in a multi-year	
outcomes achieved	spending review until 2021 means the	
	process will be piloted during 2021/22,	
	following the local elections, ready for	
	2022/23. Services are being provided with	
	support for preparations with the new	
	Business Plan.	
	A new portfolio management approach is	
	being implemented to align corporate	
	programmes with the new Business Plan	
	and ensure benefits realisation	

Initials

AB: Andy Brown, Interim Corporate Director, Resources **IG:** Ian Gibbons, Director, Legal and Electoral Services

JP: Jo Pitt, Director, HR and OD

SH: Simon Hendey, Director, Housing and Commercial **HH:** Helean Hughes, Director, Education and Skills

JG: Jess Gibbons, Director, Communities and Neighbourhood Services

KB: Kate Blackburn, Director, Public Health

PM: Paula Marsh, HR

JH: Jonathan Hopkins, Procurement MN: Martin Nicholls, Executive Office

MD: Maria Doherty, Democracy

EP: Emergency Planning