Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 Current Status of Improvement Actions Quarterly Update to Audit and Governance Committee: March 2022

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

AGS improvement actions	Current Status	
Review commissioning and procurement	An end to end review of processes across	HJ
approaches to embed industry standard	procurement has been undertaken, and a	JH
contract management as part of staff job	refreshed process has been devised	
descriptions; deliver policy and training to	(involving, appropriately, colleagues from	
embed social value across the council; and	Legal and SWAP Audit). This will be formally	
strengthen our approach to partnership	launched during Q1 (of calendar year 2022).	
working with the VCS through business	The Job Descriptions have also been	
planning processes.	completely refreshed and will form part of	
	the Procurement Team Restructure (also	
	during Q1); each aspect of this	
	Improvement Action has been reflected	
	therein.	
Continue activities to embed all of the	Main roll out and embedding activities	JP
values in Our Identity across the	complete. Work underway on iteration 2 of	PM
organisation	"Our Identity" following workshops and	
	feedback by end of 2022.	

Principle B - Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement

AGS improvement actions	Current Status	
Review commissioning and procurement	See above for review of end to end processes	HJ
approaches to embed industry standard		DR
contract management as part of staff job	Training has been undertaken with all	
descriptions; deliver policy and training to	commissioning staff by IPC (Integrated	
embed social value across the council; and	Personal Commissioning (IPC) which is a	
strengthen our approach to partnership	nationally led, locally delivered programme	
working with the VCS through business	that is supporting healthcare empowerment	
planning processes.	and the better integration of services across	
	health, social care and the voluntary and	
	community sector).	

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

AGS improvement actions	Current Status	
Regularly report on delivery against outcomes	A new performance framework will be	MN
defined in the new Business Plan, including	agreed as part of the new Business Plan	
our commercial approach	shortly. Combined quarterly reporting of	
	performance, risk and finance to cabinet	
	will resume in March 2022.	

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

AGS improvement actions	Current Status	
Finalise the governance review of Stone	Cabinet agreed governance arrangements	AB
Circle company and shareholding	for Stone Circle companies as well as any	PH
arrangements	other companies that the Council owns or	SH
	has interests in at its meeting on the 27 th	
	September 2021. The first meeting of the	
	shareholder sub committee of the cabinet is	
	scheduled to take place on the 25 th January.	

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	Guides to councillor and officer decision-	PH
making processes	making powers; cabinet reports and	JP
	individual cabinet member decisions have	MD
	now been produced and are available on	MN
	the council intranet. Further guidance will	
	be produced covering taking, recording and	
	publishing officer decisions, and consulting	
	internal boards. This will be subject to	
	review by Corporate Governance Group,	
	before discussion at CLT/ELT and	
	development of related training material. A	
	comprehensive councillor induction and	
	development programme was prepared for	
	all councillors to benefit from following local	
	elections.	
Continue to work with partners to complete	A full multi-agency debrief was not taken	KB
a multi-agency evaluation of the response	forward before response was reactivated	EP
to the pandemic	for the second wave – this will be	MN
	considered during 2022. 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. The	
	Multi-agency Wiltshire Covid-19 Health	
	Protection board, chaired by the DPH	
	meets fortnightly to oversee and lead the	
	response.	

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 ensuring directorate level service	MN
ensure a focus on the resources used and	plans link clearly with Business Plan	
outcomes achieved	principles. This will be considered by	
	cabinet and full council shortly. The delay in	
	a multi-year local government finance	
	settlement means a multi-year budget	
	aligned to business plan outcomes will be	
	trialled in the coming year.	
	A new portfolio management approach is	
	being implemented to align corporate	
	programmes with the new Business Plan	
	and ensure benefits realisation.	
Review the Complaints Procedure alongside	A new Corporate Complaints Procedure is	PH
arrangements to report trends and learning	being drafted for review by the Corporate	MD
	Leadership Team prior to consideration by	FC
	Standards Committee and to relevant	
	scrutiny committees.	
	A new complaints casework IT platform is	
	now being developed internally and will	
	support improved reporting of trends and	
	learning.	

Initials

AB: Andy Brown, Interim Corporate Director, Resources

PH: Perry Holmes, Director, Legal and Electoral Services

JP: Jo Pitt, Director, HR and OD

SH: Simon Hendey, Director, Housing and Commercial

HJ: Helen Jones, Director of Commissioning

DR: David Redfern, Assistant Director, Leisure, Communities and Culture

KB: Kate Blackburn, Director, Public Health

PM: Paula Marsh, HR
JH: Jonathan Hopkins, Procurement
MN: Martin Nicholls, Executive Office
MD: Maria Doherty, Democracy and Governance
EP: Emergency Planning