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

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

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 continues through the	
	Community Resilience recovery group	
	bringing together Community Partners,	
	VCS, Strategic partners and the Council.	
	This group will be reviewing and updating	
	the VCS strategy to ensure it aligns to	
	Recovery once that is fully underway.	

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	The delay in a multi-year spending review	AB
process aligned to budget build (when spending	until 2021 means the process will be	
reviews permit)	piloted during 2021 ready for 2022/23.	

Review approach to service delegation and	A review of the benefit of the asset	AB
asset transfer and One Public Estate	transfer and service devolution	SH
	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.	

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,	
	Ongoing governance of council owned	AB
	companies such as Stone Circle will be	IG
	considered through Audit and Governance	
	Committee activity, with an update in the	
	Annual Governance Statement. The	
	Committee on Standards in Public Life	
	recommends that wholly owned LA	
	companies should publish their board	
	meeting papers online and this is under	
	consideration.	
Embed good commissioning and contract	This is an action under the contract	AB
management as part of staff job	management paper. Procurement are	JP
descriptions.	reviewing information and will liaise with	JH
	HR Business Partner to discuss – current	PM
	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.	MN

Work with partners to complete a multi-	A multi agency debrief was not taken	KB
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.	

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	
	ready for 2022/23	
	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