Annual Governance Statement 2022 Current Status of Improvement Actions Interim Update to Audit and Governance Committee: April 2023

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	AB
approaches to embed industry standard	procurement has been undertaken, and a	DB
contract management as part of staff job	refreshed process has been devised	
descriptions; deliver policy and training to	(involving colleagues from Legal and SWAP	
embed social value across the council; and	Audit). Commercial Board has been	
strengthen our approach to partnership	relaunched in line with this. A restructure of	
working with the VCS through business	the Commercial & Procurement team has	
planning processes and a refresh of the	been undertaken, all job descriptions have	
Compact/ VCS Strategy.	been revised and recruitment is underway.	
	An improvement plan is in place.	
	Following the redesign of end-to-end processes and the development of a social value strategy, there will be an identification of skills gaps for commercialization and procurement.	
Rollout a Good Conduct Campaign for local	Completed. Further webinars being	PH
councils, including a toolkit, webinar and	considered for the future.	MD
Good Conduct chart.		

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	AB
approaches to embed industry standard	processes	DR
contract management as part of staff job		DB
descriptions; deliver policy and training to	A Socially Responsible Procurement Policy	RS
embed social value across the council; and	and associated action plan has been agreed	
strengthen our approach to partnership	by Cabinet in November 2022, the action	
working with the VCS through business	plan includes a specific intent to engage with	
planning processes and a refresh of the	the voluntary sector and community of	
Compact/ VCS Strategy.	Wiltshire as part of a mixed economy	
	approach to the procurement of goods,	
	works and services going forward. A Social	
	Responsibility Toolkit to support both	
	suppliers and commissioners to maximise	
	the delivery of social value has been	
	developed.	
	A new partnership arrangement is being	
	developed with the VCS, taking into account	
	and superseding the Wiltshire Compact and	
	the previous VCS strategy. Early discussion	
	with the sector and WC Officers is underway.	

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 corporate performance framework	MN
defined in the new Business Plan, including	has been agreed as part of the	
our commercial approach	publication of the new Business Plan.	
	Through, aligned quarterly reporting of	
	performance and risk at cabinet this	
	continues to be refined through	
	engagement with the relevant services,	
	including through the annual service	
	planning cycle.	

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

AGS improvement actions	Current Status	
Finalise the governance review of Stone	Peer challenge report noted that 'the	AB
Circle company and shareholding	council has impressive organisational	PH
arrangements	governance providing good levels of rigour	
	and consistency in corporate decision-	
	making, there is clarity around roles and	
	responsibilities, and member/officer	
	relationships are strong and productive. This	
	extends to the Stone Circle wholly owned	
	company where governance improvements	
	now appropriately balance risk and benefit.'	

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 making processes	Guidance on the council's decision-making processes has been developed and is available on the corporate intranet.  Directors and Heads of Service have been briefed. An officer corporate governance group is considering whether or not further action is required regarding publication of officer decisions.	PH MD
Continue to work with partners to complete a multi-agency evaluation of the response to the pandemic	The LRF held a set of multi-agency debrief interviews and workshops sessions throughout June 2022 and the feedback from these has been reviewed. In addition, the public health team have run a series of response debrief/look back sessions for the specific responsibilities around testing, tracing, outbreak management, prisons, care homes, schools and communications to inform our own internal evaluation and ongoing planning.	PH KB MN EP

	We will continue to support the public	
	inquiry as appropriate with partners.	

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	PH
communicated to the public to deliver	performance as well as publishing open data	MN
maximum openness and transparency	will be developed and delivered as part of	SH
	the BI Development programme and SAP	
	Evolve project. Incorporation of appropriate	
	resident engagement is being considered as	
	part of the regular service planning	
	approach.	

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	SH
ensure a focus on the resources used and	plans link clearly with Business Plan	MN
outcomes achieved	principles.	
	A new portfolio management approach	
	which includes organisational level	
	prioritisation and governance arrangements	
	is being implemented to align corporate	
	programmes and transformation activities	
	with the new Business Plan and ensure	
	benefits realisation.	
Review the Complaints Procedure alongside	A new, more user-friendly corporate	PH
arrangements to report trends and learning	Complaints Procedure was agreed by Full	MD
	Council in October 2022.	
	An Annual Complaints Report 2021-22 was	
	received by Standards Committee in	
	September 2022. This provided a	
	comprehensive picture of the complaints	
	received, how they were processed and the	
	actions in place to address any issues	
	identified.	
	A new complaints casework IT platform is	
	now being developed internally and will	
	support improved reporting of trends and	
	learning.	

## **Initials**

AB: Andy Brown, Corporate Director, Resources

**PH:** Perry Holmes, Director, Legal and Electoral Services

TK: Tamsin Kielb, Director, HR and OD

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

**KB:** Kate Blackburn, Director, Public Health **SH**: Stuart Honeyball, Director, Transformation

DB: Deborah Bull, Procurement

RS: Rhys Schell, Strategic Engagement and Partnerships

MN: Martin Nicholls, Executive Office MD: Maria Doherty, Democracy

EP: Emergency Planning