

Report To: Corporate Governance Committee

Date of Meeting: 19 July 2017

Lead Member / Officer: Alan Smith – Head of Business Improvement & Modernisation

Report Author: Nanette Williams – Acting Chief Internal Auditor

Title: Annual Governance and Improvement Assessment 2016-17

- 1. What is the report about?**
This report provides the self-assessment report on the Council's governance and improvement arrangements for 2016-17, which incorporates the Council's 'annual governance statement'.
- 2. What is the reason for making this report?**
The report provides the Committee with the opportunity to comment on this years 'annual governance statement'.
- 3. What are the Recommendations?**
The Committee reviews and comments on the 'annual governance statement' for 2016-17 (Appendix 1).
- 4. Report details**
The Annual Governance and Improvement assessment 2016-17 includes a self-assessment of the Council's governance arrangements and shows areas of improvement during the previous financial year. It highlights any weaknesses in an action plan, which this Committee will monitor to ensure implementation of the necessary improvements. Full details are provided in Appendix 1.
- 5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**
While the 'annual governance statement' self-assessment does not directly contribute to Corporate Priorities, it provides an assessment and assurance on the delivery of the Corporate Plan, the Council's operational and financial performance, governance arrangements, community engagement etc. that are all directed towards delivering the Corporate Priorities.
- 6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**
Not applicable - there is no decision required with this report.
- 7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?**
Not applicable - there is no decision required with this report.
- 8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**
Not applicable - there is no decision required with this report.
- 9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**
Not applicable - there is no decision required with this report.
- 10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

If the Governance Improvement Plan is not implemented, weaknesses will remain in the Council's governance arrangements, which could lead to:

- adverse regulatory reports;
- poor use of public money;
- failure to improve key corporate and service areas;
- loss of stakeholder confidence; and
- an adverse impact on the Council's reputation.

11. Power to make the Decision

Not applicable - there is no decision required with this report.