

**Audit & Standards Committee – 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023**

**Report of the Deputy Chief Executive**

**Annual Governance Statement**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To consider amendments to the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) to reflect previous discussions at this Committee.

**Recommendations**

2. That the Committee:
  - Approve the additional wording included at paragraph 6.4 of the Annual Governance Statement.
  - Approve the Annual Governance Statement (as amended) and refer it to the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive for signature.

**Background**

3. When the AGS was presented at the December meeting of this Committee, Members agreed that there needed to be a further meeting to determine whether amendments were required to reflect discussions and resolutions from previous meetings. The Committee is asked to consider the recommendations in paragraph 2 above.

**Finance**

4. This report has no direct financial implications.

## **Law**

5. The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require that the council conduct a review at least once a year of the effectiveness of its system of internal control and produce an Annual Governance Statement (AGS).

## **Risk Management**

6. The proposals contained in this report do not create any “material” risks.

## **Equality Impact**

7. This report does not raise any equality issues.
8. Whilst children and young people are not directly consulted on, or involved with the development of the AGS, it will help ensure their interests are protected.

## **Human Resources/Organisational Development**

9. There are no human resources/organisational development implications arising from this report.

## **Commercial/Procurement**

10. There are no commercial/procurement considerations relating to this report.

## **Environment/Climate Change**

11. There are no environmental or climate change considerations associated with this report, although there is a section on environmental within the Annual Governance Statement.

## **Council Priorities and Projects**

12. An effective framework of governance, risk management and internal control will greatly assist the Council in achieving its priorities.

Balvinder Heran

**Balvinder Heran**  
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**List of Background Papers**

Appendix 1: Annual Governance Statement 2021/22