

## Audit and Governance Committee

**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022

**Agenda No:** 8

<b>Title of Report:</b>	Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 improvement plan progress update
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To update and provide assurance to the Audit &amp; Governance Committee (AGC) on progress with the issues raised by the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) improvement plan 2020/21.</li> </ul>
<b>Recommendations:</b>	<p>It is recommended that the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviews the progress reported against key issues identified, and considers any further assurance they would like to see as we prepare the AGS for the current year 2021/22.</li> </ul>
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<b>Key Risks</b>	Failure to deliver an effective corporate governance framework prevents the Council in directing and controlling its resources effectively and efficiently, to enable the Council's priorities and objectives to be met.
<b>Context</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through the Council's Constitution, the Audit and Governance Committee has responsibility for review and approval of the Statement and to be provided with the assurance that any improvement actions identified are implemented.</li> <li>The AGS for 2020/21 was signed off by the committee in September 2021, with a re-signed version in December 2021 alongside the Statement of Accounts. This statement included an action plan of seven key issues which had been identified for specific improvement work.</li> <li>The table attached below contains assurance updates from the relevant Corporate Leadership Team owner of each action. Comments or requests for further assurance are invited from the committee and will be fed back to action owners (where they are not able to attend in person).</li> <li>Collation of the 2021/22 AGS runs from January to May 2021 and the Committee's comments will also be fed into that process.</li> </ul>