

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ACTION PLAN UPDATEReport of the Corporate Governance Group**1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The attached report is the Council's Annual Governance Action Plan arising from the latest Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2019/20. The AGS was approved by the Audit Committee at its meeting on 09 September 2020.
- 1.2 The Action Plan outlines the key governance issues currently facing the Council along with agreed controls put in place to manage the issue. A quarterly update is provided via communication and challenge to nominated officers specified by the Corporate Governance Group.
- 1.3 The Council's overall corporate governance arrangements are summarised in the Local Code of Corporate Governance. Levels of compliance with the Code are reviewed each year by the Corporate Governance Group to enable the Authority to measure its arrangements against the Local Code and identify areas where improvements are necessary as detailed in the Annual Governance Statement. This approach clearly demonstrates the current Authority position and proposed further remedial action to attain full compliance with the Local Code. The Action Plan is a further demonstration of this.
- 1.4 The Action Plan continues to outline the significant issues facing the Authority which need to be effectively managed and highlights areas where protocols are being developed to improve compliance with the Authority's Local Code of Corporate Governance. The document is intended to demonstrate the Authority's commitment to maintaining the highest ethical standards and levels of corporate governance.

2. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Audit Committee is asked to comment on the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Local Code of Corporate Governance - Stockport's Code of Governance.

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