

# Cherwell District Council

## Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee

25 June 2014

### Annual Governance Statement 2013-14

## Report of Interim Head of Finance and Procurement

This report is public

### Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the Annual Governance Statement 2013-14, subject to any amendments the Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee may wish to make.

### 1.0 Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To consider and approve the Annual Governance Statement 2013-14 (Appendix 1).

### 2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 Attached at Appendix 1 is the Annual Governance Statement for 2013-14. This is a public document that sets out what the Council achieved during the year.

### 3.0 Report Details

- 3.1 The Annual Governance Statement is the part of the CIPFA/SOLACE governance framework. The Annual Governance Statement is a wide ranging document that is governance focussed and must be considered and 'owned' corporately. The statement is separate to the Statement of Accounts but is considered at the same time of the accounts. The Annual Governance Statement is signed by the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council.
- 3.2 The document describes our governance arrangements and assesses how closely we align with good practice. ***In overall terms this is a positive statement for the financial year 2013-14 with no significant governance issues to report.*** This document relies on several assurance mechanisms including the internal audit annual review, internal audit reports throughout the year, the work of the Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee, the overall scrutiny process and external audit.

## **4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations**

4.1 To consider and endorse the Annual Governance Statement

## **5.0 Consultation**

5.1 None

## **6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

6.1 None

## **7.0 Implications**

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

7.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from any outcome of this report.

Comments checked by:

Nicola Jackson, Corporate Finance Manager, 01295 221731

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### **Legal Implications**

7.2. There are no legal implications arising directly from any outcome of this report.

Comments checked by:

Kevin Lane, Head of Law and Governance, 0300 0030107

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### **Risk Implications**

7.3 There are no risk implications arising directly from any outcome of this report.

Comments checked by:

Nicola Jackson, Corporate Finance Manager, 01295 221731

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## **8.0 Decision Information**

### **Wards Affected**

All

### **Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework**

All

## Lead Councillor

None

## Document Information

<b>Annex No</b>	<b>Title</b>
Appendix 1	Annual Governance Statement – to follow
<b>Background Papers</b>	
None	
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