

Cherwell District Council
Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee

30 June 2016

Annual Governance Statement 2015/16

Report of Chief Finance Officer

This report is public

Purpose of report

To report the Annual Governance Statement. The Annual Governance Statement will be considered at the same time as the Statement of Accounts for 2015/16.

1.0 Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 to consider and endorse the Annual Governance Statement 2015/16 (Appendix 1 – to follow).

2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 The Annual Governance Statement is attached at Appendix 1 (to follow). It is an item for consideration and endorsement prior to formal sign off by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive.

3.0 Report Details

- 3.1 The Annual Governance Statement is part of the CIPFA/SOLACE governance framework. It is a wide ranging document that is governance focussed and must be considered and “owned” corporately. It is separate from the Statement of Accounts but is considered alongside them.
- 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 2015/16 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 direct financial implications stemming from this report.

Comments checked by:
George Hill, Corporate Finance Manager
george.hill@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Legal Implications

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

Comments checked by:
Kevin Lane, Head of Law and Governance
kevin.lane@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Risk Management

7.3 There are no risk management issues arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:
Ed Bailey, Corporate Performance Manager, 01295 221605
edward.bailey@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Equality and Diversity

7.4 There are no equality or diversity issues arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:
Caroline French, Corporate Policy Officer, 01295 221586
caroline.french@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

8.0 Decision Information

Wards Affected

All wards are affected

Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

Links to all elements of Corporate Plan

Lead Councillor

None

Document Information

Annex No	Title
Appendix 1	Annual Governance Statement 2015/16 (to follow)
Background Papers	
None	
Report Author	Paul Sutton, Chief Finance Officer
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