

Regulation, Audit and Accounts Committee

8 March 2021

Annual Governance Statement Action Plan 2019/20 Update

Report by Director of Law and Assurance

Summary

The Committee agreed the Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 in November 2020, which included planned actions to address identified governance issues. Progress on the actions is shown in appendix A for the Committee to consider.

Recommendations

That the Action Plan update be noted.

Proposal

1 Background and context

- 1.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations require the publication of an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) by the County Council.
- 1.2 Corporate Governance is the system by which the County Council ensures and gives assurance that it is discharging its functions in the right way, in a timely and accountable manner.
- 1.3 The Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 was agreed by the Committee in November 2020 and was subsequently signed by the Leader and Chief Executive. The Statement contains a summary of required actions.

2 Proposal details

- 2.1 An update on progress against the Action Plan for 2019/20 is attached. The Committee is invited to consider this progress and whether it requires further detail on any particular action for a future meeting.

3 Other options considered (and reasons for not proposing)

- 3.1 Not applicable.

4 Consultation, engagement and advice

- 4.1 The external auditor was consulted on the draft Annual Governance Statement 19/20 and the auditor's comments were taken into account in the final version, which includes the items identified for the Action Plan.

5 Finance

5.1 Not applicable.

6 Risk implications and mitigations

Risk	Mitigating Action (in place or planned)
There are risks from services failing to deliver the action plan	Individual directorates, the Executive Leadership Team and this Committee monitor progress against actions.

7 Policy alignment and compliance

7.1 The Statement is aligned with the Code of Corporate Governance.

Tony Kershaw

Director of Law and Assurance

Contact Officer: Charles Gauntlett, Senior Advisor, 033 022 22524,
charles.gauntlett@westsussex.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix A - Annual Governance Statement Action Plan 2019/20 update

Background papers

None