

Audit and Governance Committee



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| Date of meeting: | 27 September 2021 |
| Title of Report: | Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2020/21 |
| Lead Member: | Councillor John Riley (Cabinet Member for Governance, HR, IT & Community Safety) |
| Lead Strategic Director: | Giles Perritt (Assistant Chief Executive) |
| Author: | Rob Sowden |
| Contact Email: | Robert.Sowden@plymouth.gov.uk |
| Your Reference: | AGSRS/2021 |
| Key Decision: | No |
| Confidentiality: | Part I - Official |

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the AGS, copy attached to this report at Appendix A, is to provide evidence of a continuous review of the Council's internal control and risk management processes, to provide assurance as to their effectiveness and to identify action being taken or planned to address any key weaknesses identified. It is a statutory document required by Accounts and Audit Regulations.

Recommendations and Reasons

The Committee is recommended to approve the Annual Governance Statement, alongside the Statement of Accounts, prior to signature by the Leader, Chief Executive and Service Director for Finance (S.151 Officer).

Alternative options considered and rejected

Not applicable

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

Maintaining sound systems of internal control and risk management enables the Council to monitor and review the key risks that may prevent it from achieving its corporate and service objectives.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

None

Financial Risks:

None

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

None

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

The Risk and Opportunity Management Strategy specifically supports the processes which underpin the production of the Annual Governance Statement.

Appendices

*Add rows as required to box below

| Ref. | Title of Appendix | Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i> | | | | | | |
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| A | Annual Governance Statement | | | | | | | |

Background papers:

*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

| Title of any background paper(s) | Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i> | | | | | | |
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Sign off:

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| Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Giles Perritt | | | | | | | | | | | |

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes

Date agreed: 15/09/2021

Cabinet Member approval: *Cllr John Riley Verbally authorised*

Date approved: 15/09/2021