

# Audit and Governance Committee



Date of meeting:	23 July 2024
Title of Report:	<b>Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2023/24</b>
Lead Member:	Cllr Tudor Evans, OBE, Leader
Lead Strategic Director:	David Northey, S. 151 Officer and Service Director for Finance
Author:	Ross Jago (Head of Governance, Performance and Risk)
Contact Email:	Ross.jago@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	AGSRS/2022
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If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.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>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**Sign off:**

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: David Northey, S. 151 Officer and Service director for Finance											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 11/07/2024											
Cabinet Member approval: Cllr Tudor Evans Date approved: 12/07/2024											