

31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2013

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES**

**ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2012/13 - UPDATE**

**EXEMPT INFORMATION**

None

**PURPOSE**

To advise the Committee of the current position regarding “significant and other governance issues” raised in the Authority’s Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2012/13 and provide an opportunity for members of the Committee to raise any issues they consider appropriate.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**That the Committee reviews the attached update on the “significant and other governance issues” from the 2012/13 Annual Governance Statement and raises any issues deemed appropriate for further consideration.**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Authority is required to produce a public Annual Governance Statements (AGS) in accordance with the Accounts & Audit Regulations 2003 incorporating Accounts & Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2011. The AGS must be published with the Authority’s Annual Statement of Accounts. The AGS is a document which sets out the arrangements within the Authority for ensuring there is a sound and robust governance framework and that the system is regularly reviewed, and it is expected that for any instances of significant shortfalls in such governance issues are referred to with the AGS. The Accounts & Audit Regulations also require that the Statement should be considered by a Committee of the Council.

This report advises the Committee of the current position regarding the significant and other governance issues (**Appendix 1 & 2**), identified through the assurance gathering process completed for the production of the Annual Governance Statement. It gives the appropriate level of assurance on progress in dealing with these, and seeks the views of the Committee on any issues this may raise for further consideration in relation to the Council’s control environment and governance.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

None

## **LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS BACKGROUND**

None

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

None

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

None

## **REPORT AUTHOR**

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## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Annual Governance Statement Significant Issues 2012/13 Update  
Appendix 2 – Action Plan arising from the AGS 2012/13 Assurance Process