

Audit Committee

14 December 2015

Report title	Annual Governance Statement – Action Plan Update	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Andrew Johnson Resources	
Accountable director	Mark Taylor, Finance	
Originating service	Audit Services	
Accountable employee(s)	Peter Farrow Tel Email	Head of Audit 01902 554460 peter.farrow@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Strategic Executive Board	1 December 2015

Recommendations for noting:

The Committee is asked to note:

1. The progress made in addressing the key improvements areas identified in the 2014/15 Annual Governance Statement action plan.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The Council is required under Regulation 4(2) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003, as amended by the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulation 2006 to produce an Annual Governance Statement to be included in the annual statement of accounts, which is signed by the Leader of the Council and the Managing Director. The statement draws upon the management and internal control framework of the council, especially the work of internal and external audit and the council's risk management arrangements. In compiling the statement assurance is obtained from a range of sources in order that the signatories to the statement can assure themselves that it reflects the governance arrangements for which they are responsible. Following this exercise a list of key improvement areas was identified.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Appendix A of this report has an action plan listing the key areas for improvement that were identified at the time of the compilation of the Annual Governance statement, and updates the Committee on the actions that have been taken so far, towards their implementation.

3.0 Progress, options, discussion, etc.

- 3.1 A further update on progress made against the actions identified in the 2014/15 Annual Governance Statement will be reported to the Committee at the year-end as part of the 2015/16 Annual Governance Statement.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendation in this report as Councillors are only requested to note the progress made in addressing the key improvements areas identified in the 2014/15 Annual Governance Statement action plan. The Annual Governance Statement and delivery of the action plan is, however, a significant element of the processes in place to ensure proper and effective use of resources. (GE/27112015/E)

5.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report (RB/01122015/X)

6.0 Equalities implications

- 6.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

7.0 Environmental implications

- 7.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

8.0 Human resources implications

8.1 There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

9.0 Corporate landlord implications

9.1 There are no corporate landlord implications arising from this report.

10 Schedule of background papers

10.1 2014/15 Annual Governance Statement

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