

Annual Governance Statement Update

Based on the Council's established risk management approach, the following issues were assessed as being "significant" for the purpose of the 2016-2017 annual governance statement and an update on how the actions are progressing has now been provided.

Key areas and actions for implementation	Responsibility and expected implementation date	Update @ 31 October 2017
<p><i>Savings Targets</i> This continues to be a key area for the Council to manage as it is faced with finding savings of £20.5 million by 2019/20. As part of this process £14.9 million of additional savings is to be identified for 2018-2019 and reported to Cabinet, in order to demonstrate that a balanced budget can be achieved in 2018-2019.</p>	<p>Chief Accountant July 2017</p>	<p>On 18 October Cabinet approved that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) That Financial Transaction and Base Budget Revisions totalling a net reduction of £12.5 million in 2018-2019 be incorporated into the 2018-2019 draft budget.2) A one-off base budget revision to the Treasury Management budget totalling £1.0 million for 2018-2019.3) The one-off use of £700,000 from the Job Evaluation reserve in 2018-2019.4) The use of capital receipts totalling £2.7 million to fund the revenue cost of transformational projects that are anticipated to deliver efficiencies <p>Cabinet also approved a number of changes to items in the Medium Term Financial Strategy. As a result of the recommendations approved by Cabinet the Council is projected to be able to set a balanced budget for 2018-2019.</p> <p>Budget consultation and scrutiny will be undertaken during November and December the outcome of which will be reported back to Cabinet.</p>

<p><i>Procurement, Contract Management and Monitoring</i></p> <p>Following the recruitment of the Contract Manager post a standard approach to performance monitoring and contract administration is to be developed during 2017-2018.</p>	<p>Service Director – Commercial Services December 2017</p>	<p>A team of four commercial and contract management staff have been recruited and the Council’s strategic and high value contracts are being actively managed i.e: Waste Treatment, Waste Collection and Recycling, Leisure PFI, Yoo Recruit Partner.</p> <p>A pilot of contract management training has been undertaken with the Housing Team this will be rolled out across other service teams in 2018-2019.</p>
<p><i>Combined Authority</i></p> <p>Following the election of the new Mayor in May 2017, the Council will be working with their office in order to maximise the benefits the Combined Authority (CA) will bring to the city.</p>	<p>Managing Director September 2017</p>	<p>Excellent relationships have been built with the Metro Mayor and his office. This has resulted in the City of Wolverhampton getting a high profile and additional funds for the train station and other projects.</p>
<p><i>Corporate Landlord</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Asset Plan - to develop the Strategic Asset Plan with CIPFA. • Asset Challenge- to develop a utilisation template and consider life-cycle condition surveys as part of the future FM Delivery Model • Data Management - to rationalise systems and introduce a data intelligence solution. 	<p>Head of Corporate Landlord October – December 2017</p>	<p>Strategic Asset Plan – all stakeholder engagement sessions have been held with CIPFA and the draft Strategic Asset Plan is expected by the end of December 2017.</p> <p>Asset Challenge – three workshops have taken place and to date have identified a potential 45 further buildings that could be included in the Medium Term Financial Strategy Disposal Programme. The next step will be to asset challenge the Council’s land holdings.</p> <p>Data Management – the Focal 365 Business Intelligence Solution is in full production and will be implemented by March 2018.</p>