



**REPORT of  
DIRECTOR OF STRATEGY, PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

---

**to  
PERFORMANCE, GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE  
10 JUNE 2021**

**DRAFT ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT - 2020/21**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To provide an Annual Governance Statement for review and adoption.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (i) That the Performance, Governance and Audit Committee approve the Annual Governance Statement at **APPENDIX A**;
- (ii) That the Performance, Governance and Audit Committee monitor the progress of the action plan;
- (iii) That a quarterly report of Annual Governance actions is provided for Performance, Governance and Audit committee review.

**3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1 The Annual Governance Statement for Maldon District Council (MDC) has been put together according to Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) best practice, which is the second time we have reported it this way.
- 3.2 The document reviews the criteria for good governance and the activity that has taken place within these criteria over the 2020-21 financial year, as well as giving the internal audit statement/ review of the year.
- 3.3 The document also highlights areas where further improvements could be made to improve governance and work to do as new practices emerge, such as the Financial Management Code.
- 3.4 It is provided as separate to the statement of accounts, for the authority to recognise the importance of the document in supporting our governance arrangements, which underpin the way our financial reporting is produced.

**4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 The draft Annual Governance Statement is provided for committee review and adoption, and to define a recommended action plan for improved governance over the next financial year.

## 5. IMPACT ON STRATEGIC THEMES

- 5.1 A good approach to governance will underpin more robust challenge on performance of the strategic plan.

## 6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – Better governance approach allows us to deliver better services for our customers.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – n/a
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – good governance includes good risk management and will have a positive impact.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – n/a
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – n/a
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – n/a
- (vii) **Impact on Strengthening Communities** – n/a

Background Papers:

Enquiries to: Cheryl Hughes, Programmes, Performance and Governance Manager