



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

to
**PERFORMANCE, GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
23 SEPTEMBER 2021**

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ACTIONS UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To update the Committee on the actions identified in the 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement.

2. RECOMMENDATION

(i) To review the Annual Governance Statements table and updates below and challenge where necessary.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

3.1 The Annual Governance Statement in its new format was approved by the Performance, Governance and Audit committee on 30 July 2020. In line with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) best practice, it was reflective of governance matters for 2020/21, and forward looking about where we could make improvements for 2021/22.

3.2 The report has an action plan for the year looking forwards and the Committee agreed that progress on the actions would be reported to and reviewed by the Committee.

3.3 The Action Plan is held on our SharePoint system and updated by responsible officers.

3.4 The current table of actions and officer updates are detailed below for Member consideration.

Title	Owner	Status	Target Completion	Commentary
Peer review of our scrutiny arrangements	Cheryl Hughes	Completed	30/01/2021	The LGA centre for governance and scrutiny delivered training in April 2021 around scrutiny best practice and included feedback in this.
Implement the member training and development plan with the Local Government Association	Cheryl Hughes	Completed	07/2021	Member training delivered in conjunction with LGA on Planning,

				and Planning recommendations have been considered by the Corporate Governance working group. Chairman training, Risk Management training, and Planning quarterly sessions have all taken place since April 2021. A detailed Member training plan has been reviewed by the Member training Working group and considered by Council.
Assess the impact of Covid on our services and delivery including through internal audit Implement a refreshed Corporate Plan.	Chris Leslie	Ongoing	10/2021	Internal audit fieldwork commenced August 2021 to review covid recovery arrangements and recommend areas of further improvement. Corporate Plan refreshed and adopted February 2021.
A review of the Corporate Risk Register, to map Risk Management to the corporate outcome delivery.	Cheryl Hughes	Ongoing	15/07/2021	Review of the Risk register according to the revised corporate plan will take place in June '21 when the full outcome mapping has been completed.
Implement revised performance tracking accordingly.	Cheryl Hughes	Ongoing	01/2022	Not yet started-pending audit findings.
Monitor and improve commercial income delivery and tracking the benefits of the Transformation programme.	Steven Butcher	Completed		August overview and scrutiny committee were presented with transformation reconciliation. This highlighted commercial income that could not be achieved and has now been factored into the Medium Term Financial

				Strategy (MTFS). The commercial team are also developing full Project documents for commercial programme proposals, reporting to steering board late August.
Review our Audit committee arrangements in light of the Redmond review (i.e. Performance, Governance and Audit committee).	Cheryl Hughes	Ongoing	30/01/2021 - now revised to 10/2021.	Still awaiting the final report to feed in, so will roll this into the 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement actions.
Draw out and link all of our policies and their objectives through a review of the Local Development Plan (e.g. Corporate Plan, Climate Change).	Matt Winslow	Ongoing		Local Development Plan (LDP) review has commenced. Currently a call for sites is taking place, as per the programme workplan.
Public involvement and budget consultation as part of our Annual Strategic Cycle.	Chris Leslie	Ongoing	31/12/2021	The budget consultation commenced in August with a closing date of September. This will be built into the budget setting timetable.
Review remote meeting arrangements and future options for online participation.	Paul Dodson	Ongoing	03/2022	Full Council report 2nd September to consider current meeting arrangements, including YouTube streaming available to all residents. Long term, we are also monitoring central government and have responded to evidence call around possible future remote committees, should legislation change more work will be done on this.
Implement a programme of Continual Improvement	Cheryl Hughes	Ongoing	12/2021	Process Improvement Team were made permanent as part of 2021 budget build

				process. They are now designing a long-term programme of work with services. We are also developing a process improvement vision document to define how this programme will work at MDC.
Monitor the impact of the COVID crisis on the governance arrangements	Paul Dodson	Ongoing		An internal audit of Covid recovery is taking place, including governance arrangements (Aug 2021).

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The information provided gives progress updates against the key actions defined in the 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement

5. IMPACT ON STRATEGIC THEMES

- 5.1 Good governance will enable delivery of strategic priorities going forwards.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – Not applicable (N/A).
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – N/A
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – Good governance will help minimise our corporate risk for the future.

Impact on Resources (financial) – The monitoring and delivery of this item is provided within existing resources.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (human)** – The monitoring and delivery of this item is provided within existing resources.
- (v) **Impact on the Environment** – N/A
- (vi) **Impact on Strengthening Communities** – N/A

Background Papers: 2019/20 Annual Governance Statement

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