



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

**to
PERFORMANCE, GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT
9 JUNE 2022**

DRAFT ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for review and adoption.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) To approve the Annual Governance Statement at **APPENDIX A** and that this is appended to the statement of accounts;
- (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 AGS for Maldon District Council was re-designed according to the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) best practice in 2020, and this year's report continues this format.
- 3.2 The statement reviews the criteria for good governance and the activity that has taken place within these criteria over the 21/22 financial year, as well as including the internal audit statement/ review of the year.
- 3.3 The document also highlights areas whether further improvements could be made to improve governance and build best practice, and this is set out in the action plan proposed for 22/23.
- 3.4 The AGS is provided separately to the statement of accounts to recognise the importance of the document and information set out in supporting our governance arrangements, which underpin the way our financial reporting is produced. If the draft is approved by Committee this will then be appended to the Statement of Accounts.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The draft AGS is provided for Committee review and adoption, and comments on our Governance arrangements for 2021/22, and the plans for improving these in 2022/23.

5. IMPACT ON STRATEGIC THEMES

- 5.1 A strengthened approach to governance will underpin more robust challenge on performance of the strategic plan. It will also directly contribute to the Performance and Value Strategic Goal.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – The report gives viability to our residents around our governance arrangements, and supports openness and transparency.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – Not Applicable (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:

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