

Chichester District Council

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

17th July 2023

2021-2022 Annual Governance Statement and Corporate Governance Report

1. Contacts

Report Author:

Stephen James – Internal Audit & Corporate Investigations Manager

Tel: 01243 534736

E-mail: sjames@chichester.gov.uk

2. Recommendation

The Committee is requested to:

- 2.1. **Consider the draft Annual Report on Corporate Governance at appendix 1, the Annual Governance Statement 2021-2022 (appendix 2), and Internal Audit and Corporate Investigations Annual Report 2021-2022 (appendix 3), and to recommend these to the Council for approval.**

3. Main Report

- 3.1. Members are being asked to recommend the Annual Governance Statement for 2021-2022 for approval to Council. This report has been delayed due to the fact that there have been holdups with signing off the Council accounts for this period by the Councils External Auditors (Ernst & Young).
- 3.2. All members have a responsibility for corporate governance. However, this committee is charged with identifying and looking at key risk areas in greater depth. This is to provide assurance to the Council and members that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards; that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently, and effectively.
- 3.3. Under its terms of reference, the Committee is required to report each year, or at any time where significant issues or concerns are raised on corporate governance and the internal arrangements in place to monitor and control risks.
Attached at Appendix 1 is a draft report to the Council to fulfil this requirement which the Committee is requested to consider.
- 3.4. In order to sign up to such a statement, members of the Committee will need assurance that key systems are in place within the Council. As such the Council's Internal Audit Service has the responsibility to independently review and report to the Committee, appendices 2 and 3 set out their findings.

4. Background

4.1. Not Applicable

5. Outcomes to be achieved

5.1. Not Applicable

6. Proposal

6.1. Not Applicable

7. Alternatives that have been considered

7.1. Not Applicable

8. Resource and legal implications

8.1. Not Applicable

9. Consultation

9.1. Not Applicable

10. Community impact and corporate risks

10.1. Not Applicable

11. Other Implications

Are there any implications for the following?		
	Yes	No
Crime and Disorder		√
Climate Change		√
Human Rights and Equality Impact		√
Safeguarding		√
Other (please specify)		

12. Appendices

12.1. Appendix 1 – Annual Report of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee

12.2. Appendix 2 – Annual Governance Statement 2021-2022

12.3. Appendix 3 – Internal Audit and Corporate Investigations Annual Report 2021-2022

13. Background Papers

13.1 None