

Annual Governance Statement: Significant Governance Issues

No.	Issue	Agreed Action	Progress to date (November 2019)
1.	As a result of the restructure, staff changes and legacy IT issues there is a need to review and align business continuity plans and the arrangements for disaster recovery	A review of Service Business Continuity Plans will be undertaken in 19/20 which will link into a review of Corporate Business Continuity Plans. There is also a clear road for IT service improvements that includes disaster recovery	The work on disaster recovery and business continuity is on-going. Once the new Datacentre arrangements are in place a programme to test arrangements will be undertaken
2.	Although elements of the Constitution have been revised and a number policies and procedures have been updated, several remain out of date including fraud policies and HR policies	Continue to revise the Constitution on a rolling programme and update all policies and ensure they are fit for purpose and communicated to relevant officers and Members	The fraud procedures have been updated as a result of a review by internal audit. The HR policies are being updated as part of the People framework. Phase one has been completed and Phase two policies are currently out to consultation
3.	Implement the Members Induction programme for 2019/20 as a result of the May 2019 elections	A detailed induction programme for new and existing members has been developed and will be implemented during 2019/20 with Members Briefings and specific sessions on key areas to improve governance.	A new Members Induction programme was developed and implemented and a programme of Members Briefing sessions is in place for 2019/20.
4.	The Council remains under financial pressure, implementing its Income Generation Plan and carrying external debt following acquisition of investment property	Monitor the potential loss of further funding and the associated implications. Agree and implement the new Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2020/21 to 2023/24 including the identification of additional sources of funding and income	The new Medium Term Financial Strategy is currently being developed and will be reported to the Financial Policy Panel in January 2020.

Annual Governance Statement: Significant Governance Issues (Cont)

No.	Issue	Agreed Action	Progress to date (November 2019)
5.	Some areas are unclear on the decision making process to ensure the correct authorities are obtained either through committee reports or delegated authority	Further training will be provided to ensure that the correct authority is obtained when making decisions	The Chief Legal Officer is currently reviewing and updating the scheme of delegation