

**21 April 2022**

**Agenda Item: 9**

**REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, FINANCE, PROCUREMENT &  
IMPROVEMENT**

**LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND ANNUAL  
GOVERNANCE STATEMENT – 2021-22**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To review the Local Code of Corporate Governance for Nottinghamshire County Council, and to seek approval for the proposed Annual Governance Statement 2021/22.

**Information**

2. The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 require the Authority to review the effectiveness of its system of internal control and publish an Annual Governance Statement (AGS), prepared in accordance with proper practices in relation to internal control.
3. The focus of the AGS is to assess the extent to which the Council's [Local Code of Corporate Governance](#) has been complied with in 2021/22. The opportunity should also be taken to review and update the content of the Local Code. No changes are proposed at this point; however, this will need to be reviewed to take account of the implementation of the Cabinet/Scrutiny model of governance from May 2022. The in-year governance update reports to the Governance & Ethics Committee will provide the means for doing that.
4. This AGS assesses governance in place during 2021/22 and is published alongside the annual accounts. It has been drawn up on the basis of a range of evidence sources, which are described at paragraph 3.3 of the Statement.
5. The draft Statement has been endorsed by the Corporate Leadership Team, and it is attached as **Appendix A** for consideration by the Committee.

**Other Options Considered**

6. The requirement to publish an annual governance statement is set out in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. No other options are available.

**Reason for Recommendation**

7. To set out how the Authority has met its governance responsibilities for 2021/22.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1) That the Committee approves the Annual Governance Statement for 2021/22.
- 2) That the Committee keeps the content of the Local Code of Corporate Governance under review through the in-year governance update reports, to ensure the impact of the Cabinet/Scrutiny model of governance is accurately reflected in the Code.

**Nigel Stevenson**

**Service Director – Finance, Infrastructure & Improvement**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

Rob Disney

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### **Constitutional Comments (EKH 22/03/2022)**

9. The recommendations fall within the remit of Governance and Ethics Committee under its terms of reference.

### **Financial Comments (SES 18/03/2022)**

10. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the report.

### **Background Papers**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972:

None

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All