

1 May 2019**Agenda Item: 11****REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, FINANCE, PROCUREMENT &
IMPROVEMENT****LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND ANNUAL
GOVERNANCE STATEMENT – 2018/19****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 2018/19.

Information and Advice

2. The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 require the Authority to review the effectiveness of its system of internal control and publish an Annual Governance Statement, prepared in accordance with proper practices in relation to internal control.
3. The focus of the Annual Governance Statement is to assess the extent to which the Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance has been complied with in 2018/19. The opportunity is also taken to review and update the content of the Local Code.
4. Review of the Local Code has identified that only minor amendment is required. Paragraph 2.3 in the Code has been updated to make reference to the assurance mapping process. This is the subject of a separate report on today's agenda, which recommends retention of the process. Should this not be approved, then the amendment at paragraph 2.3 will be removed.
5. The Annual Governance Statement has been drawn up on the basis of a range of evidence sources:
 - The outcomes of the quarterly governance updates to the Corporate Leadership Team
 - Assurance statements received from Corporate Directors and other key officers regarding the operation of the governance framework during 2018/19 in their areas of responsibility
 - The outcomes of the assurance mapping pilot in the areas of financial management, risk management and performance management
 - Other evidence supplied by relevant officers or obtained from the Council's website/intranet to support the assessment of specific aspects of the Code.

The draft Statement has been endorsed by the Corporate Leadership Team.

6. The Annual Governance Statement, once approved, is published alongside the Statement of Accounts 2018/19.

Other Options Considered

7. The requirement to publish an annual governance statement is set out in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011. No other options are available.

Reason for Recommendation

8. To set out how the Authority has met its governance responsibilities for 2018/19.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. 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 updated Code of Corporate Governance
- 2) That the Committee approves the Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 and makes any comments or recommendations which it considers ought to be included in the statement.
- 3) That the Committee determines the frequency with which it should receive updates on progress against the action plan.

Nigel Stevenson

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (SLB 11/04/2019)

Governance and Ethics Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments (RWK 11/04/2019)

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