

**CABINET**  
**REPORT OF THE**  
**ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND CHIEF DIGITAL OFFICER**  
**K. JONES**  
**21<sup>st</sup> November 2018**

**SECTION A: MATTER FOR MONITORING**

**WARDS AFFECTED: ALL**

**TITLE OF REPORT:**

**Half Year Progress Report - Corporate Governance Improvement Action Plan for 2018/19 – period 01.04.18 to 30.09.18**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To provide Members with a half year update on progress made on the Corporate Governance Improvement Action Plan for 2018/19 (attached at Appendix 1). The action plan reflects the governance issues (improvement areas) identified in the Council's Annual Governance Statement for 2017/18 ([reported to Cabinet on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018](#)).

**Background**

2. The Annual Governance Statement describes the Council's governance arrangements and the controls we employ to manage the risks of failure to achieve strategic objectives. The Annual Governance Statement forms part of the Annual Statement of Accounts and provides a public statement of the extent to which the Council complies with good practice and meets the core and sub principles of effective governance.

## **Progress to date**

3. The Corporate Governance Group continues to oversee the improvement work identified in the Corporate Governance Improvement Action Plan to ensure the Council's processes and procedures enable the Council to carry out its functions effectively. During the period April – September 2018, good progress has been made on the following improvement work areas contained within the action plan:

- Equalities
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Information Management

One improvement work area has been delayed due to pressures of other work which have needed to take priority. This is:

- Code of Corporate Governance – review of assurances in place to fully comply with Core Principle A on Behaviours and Values

## **Financial Appraisal**

4. The progress described was delivered against a challenging financial backdrop. Meeting the duties set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 has created additional unfunded duties on the Council which have been met from the Council's base budgets.

## **Equality Impact Assessment**

5. There are no equality impacts associated with this report.

## **Workforce Impact**

6. New legislative requirements have meant additional training for staff across the Council. Training has been delivered on the revised Integrated Impact Assessment Tool and GDPR in order to mitigate legal challenges, fines and non-compliance.

## **Legal Impact**

7. This monitoring report is prepared under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and discharges the Council's duty to "make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions". The Council also has a duty to reflect the requirement of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to ensure that our governance structures enable different parts of the organisation to work together on setting well-being objectives and taking all reasonable steps to meet well-being objectives.

## **Risk Management**

8. The Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, including arrangements for the management of risk. Failure to monitor progress on the action plan may lead to non-compliance by the Wales Audit Office and statutory recommendations the Council would be obliged to address. During 2017/2018, the Council revised and updated the existing Corporate Risk Management Policy and the Council's corporate risk management arrangements to ensure they are robust and consistent across the Council. In order to strengthen the underpinning risk management process, a new integrated corporate performance and risk management system (CPMS) was introduced. This went live on 31st March 2018.

## **Consultation**

9. There is no requirement in the Constitution for consultation on this item.

## **Recommended**

10. It is recommended that Members note the half year progress made on the Corporate Governance Improvement Action Plan for 2018/19 for the period 01.04.18 to 30.09.18 attached at Appendix 1.

## **Appendices**

11. Appendix 1 – Corporate Governance Improvement Action Plan 2018/19

## **List of Background Papers**

12. Annual Governance Statement (contained within the 2017/18 Statement of Accounts): <https://www.npt.gov.uk/media/9409/finals-of-acc-1718-signed-and-internet.pdf>

## **Officer Contact**

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