

# **POLICY AND RESOURCES CABINET BOARD**

## **REPORT OF THE HEAD OF CORPORATE STRATEGY AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES – MRS K JONES**

**27 November 2014**

### **SECTION C – MATTER FOR MONITORING**

**WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL**

#### **Governance Group 6 month progress report**

##### **Purpose of Report**

To provide Members with a half yearly update on progress made on the Governance improvement action plan, which reflects the governance issues identified in the last Annual Governance Statement for 2013/14 (attached at **Appendix 1**).

##### **Background**

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 the Code of Governance.

Following the improvement study undertaken in 2012/13 on 'Local Authority Reviews of Governance', the Wales Audit Office recommended that more frequent reports to elected Members should be made during the financial year. This report discharges the action taken in relation to that recommendation.

##### **Summary of Progress**

Overall, the improvement action plan is on track to deliver its outcomes, one area: Risk Management has a RAG status of red. Due to exceptional work demands in relation to budget proposals, work in this area has not progressed as quickly as anticipated. However, additional support has been identified to assist the Head of Financial Services in completing this work, which will now commence in the early part of 2015.

##### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Governance Group Improvement Action Plan

**List of Background Papers**

Annual Governance Statement (contained within the 2013/14 Statement of Accounts)

**Officer Contact**

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