



Report Reference Number: A/22/19

To: Audit and Governance Committee
Date: 29 March 2023
Status: Non-Key Decision
Ward(s) Affected: All
Author: Karen Iveson, Chief Finance Officer (s151)
Lead Executive Member: Cllr Cliff Lunn, Lead Member for Finance and Resources
Lead Officer: Karen Iveson, Chief Finance Officer (s151)

Title: Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

Summary:

This report presents the draft Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2022/23, which forms part of the draft Statement of Accounts. The audited accounts and AGS will be presented to the new North Yorkshire Council Audit committee at their meeting in September. There are no actions to carry forward into the new council.

Recommendations:

Subject to comments from the Committee it is recommended that the Draft Annual Governance Statement (AGS) be approved for signature by the Chief Executive and Leader.

Reasons for recommendation

To enable the Committee to approve the AGS for 22/23 ahead of the abolition of Selby District Council.

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1** Good governance is important to all involved in local government; however, it is a key responsibility of the Leader of the Council and of the Chief Executive.
- 1.2** The preparation and publication of an annual governance statement in accordance with the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework was necessary to meet the statutory requirements set out in Regulation 4(2) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations which requires authorities to “conduct a review at least once in a year of the effectiveness of its

system of internal control” and to prepare a statement on internal control “in accordance with proper practices”.

2. The Report

2.1 To meet the requirement to review the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) the AGS is set out at Appendix A. This forms part of the draft Statement of Accounts which will be submitted for audit. The audited accounts and AGS will be presented to a meeting of the North Yorkshire Council’s Audit Committee in September 2023.

2.2 There are no outstanding actions to carry forward to the new council.

2.3 Previous actions associated performance appraisals have been completed in 2022/23.

3. Alternative Options Considered

Not applicable.

4. Implications

4.1 Legal Implications

None as a direct result of this report.

4.2 Financial Implications

None as a direct result of this report.

4.3 Policy and Risk Implications

Significant control weaknesses present risk for the Council and therefore it is important that agreed actions are implemented.

4.4 Corporate Plan Implications

Ensuring an effective governance and control framework supports the Council in delivery of its ‘great value’ priority.

4.5 Resource Implications

Resources to deliver the agreed actions are within the approved budget and policy framework.

4.6 Other Implications

There are no other notable implications beyond those set out in the report and associated action plan.

4.7 Equalities Impact Assessment

Not applicable.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1** The AGS represents progress towards setting the highest Corporate Governance standards and meets the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

6. Background Documents

None.

7. Appendices

Appendix A – AGS 2022/23

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