

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

21 JULY 2023

DRAFT ACTION PLAN 2023/2024

Recommendation

- 1. The Assistant Director for Legal and Governance recommends that the draft governance action plan for 2023/24 be noted.**

Background

2. At the meeting on 26 May 2023 the committee considered the draft Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2022/2023. The AGS forms part of the Annual Statement of Accounts.
3. As discussed at the committee in May the AGS is primarily retrospective. It reports on the assurance framework and measures in place for the financial year 2022/23 and considers any significant issues of governance up to the date of publication of the Statement of Accounts. The AGS outlines the actions taken or proposed to address governance issues identified.
4. The AGS is completed by the Corporate Risk Management Group based on information provided by senior officers. The evidence comes from a variety of sources, including service plans, relevant lead officers within the organisation, internal and external auditors and inspection agencies.
5. This report appends the draft action plan for 2023/204 which will be updated quarterly.

Content

6. The Committee is asked to consider the draft governance action plan. The plan focusses on the action which will take place to ensure there is robust governance across the Council.
 - Review of the constitution focussing on a review of the contract standing orders, financial regulations, the officer scheme of delegation, departments registers of authority, officer/ member protocol
 - Governance training for managers across the Council
 - Training for members on the new code of conduct for members approved at the Council meeting on 18 May 2023
 - Robust monitoring of council's finances
 - Risk management and monitoring of performance
 - Decision making across the Council

7. The final action plan will be presented to the Committee at its meeting in September.

Contact Points

Specific Contact Points for this report

Hazel Best, Assistant Director for Legal and Governance

Tel: 01905 765609

Email: hbest@worcestershire.gov.uk

Supporting Information

- Appendix: Draft action plan 2023/2024

Background Papers

[Agenda for Audit and Governance Committee on Friday, 26th May, 2023, 2.00 pm - Worcestershire County Council \(\[moderngov.co.uk\]\(http://moderngov.co.uk\)\)](#)

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report)