

ANGUS COUNCIL**SCRUTINY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – 25 JANUARY 2022****CORPORATE GOVERNANCE – ACTION PLAN UPDATES****REPORT BY VIVIEN SMITH, DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC POLICY, TRANSFORMATION AND PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM****ABSTRACT**

This report presents an update in relation to the Action Plan included in the 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement. It also includes an update in relation to the Action Plan from the 2020/21 Scrutiny and Audit Committee Annual Report to Council.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny and Audit Committee:

- (i) review and scrutinise the update to the 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement Action Plan included in Appendix 1;
- (ii) review and scrutinise the update to 2020/21 Scrutiny and Audit Committee Annual Report Action Plan to Council included in Appendix 2; and
- (iii) approve the extension to the completion dates on specific actions as set out in sections 3.2 and 4.2 of this report.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/COUNCIL PLAN

2.1 This report supports the Council's commitment to the principles of good corporate governance, which in turn support services in the delivery of local outcomes set out in the Community Plan and the Council Plan.

3. 2019/20 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT: ACTION PLAN UPDATE

3.1 The final 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement was included in the Council's [2020/21 audited Annual Accounts](#), which were approved by this Committee at its meeting on 30 November 2021 ([Report 368/21](#) refers). The Annual Governance Statement included a number of improvement actions to be taken forward during 2021/22 to strengthen the Council's corporate governance.

3.2 An update to the Action Plan is included in Appendix 1. Members are asked to review and scrutinise progress. Approval is also sought to extend the completion dates on the following actions:

- AC-CGOV-00043 Review Social Care Billing process: propose that target date for completion is extended to 31 March 2023 (current target 31 March 2022).
- AC-CGOV-00044 Review Whistleblowing Policy: propose that target date for completion is extended to 31 March 2022 (current target 31 December 2021).
- AC-GOV-00071 AHSCP Data Breach Reporting Procedure: propose that target date for completion is extended to 31 March 2022 (current target 30 November 2021).

The explanations for the need for these extensions is also covered in the notes against each relevant action in Appendix 1.

3.3 A further update will be reported to this Committee in June 2022 as part of the annual corporate governance review.

4. SCRUTINY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE 2020/21 ANNUAL REPORT: ACTION PLAN UPDATE

4.1 The Scrutiny and Audit Committee 2020/21 Annual Report was approved by the Council at its meeting on 9 September 2021 ([Report 280/21](#) refers). Appendix A of that report provided an update to the Committee's Action Plan. Members may recall that the Action Plan was developed from the Committee's self-assessment workshop held on 29 April 2021.

4.2 An update to the Action Plan is included in Appendix 2. Members are asked to review and scrutinise progress. Approval is also sought to extend the completion dates on the following actions:

- GC-S&A-0009 Roles of CLT & other Groups: propose that target date for completion is extended to 31 March 2022 (current target 31 December 2021).
- GC-S&A-00013/ 00014/ 00015 Develop Questionnaire/ S&A Committee Feedback/ Summarised Feedback from Partner Organisations: propose that target dates for completion of these interlinked actions are extended to 30 June 2022 (current targets 31 December 2021/ 31 March 2022/ 30 April 2022).
- GC-S&A-0016 Risk Appetite: propose that target date for completion is extended to 31 March 2022 (current target 31 December 2021).
- GC-S&A-0017 Service Risk Registers: propose that target date for completion is extended to 31 March 2022 (current target 31 December 2021).

The explanations for the need for these extensions is also covered in the notes against each relevant action in Appendix 2.

4.3 The next Scrutiny and Audit self-assessment has been arranged to take place on 10 March 2022 at 10.00am till 12.00 noon ([Report 369/21](#) refers).

4.4 A further update will be reported to this Committee in August 2022 as part of the Committees draft annual report for 2021/22. That report will also include any new actions identified as part of the 2022 self-assessment exercise.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required.

NOTE: No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

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