



Annual Governance Statement – Action Plan Update

The Annual Governance Statement is a statutory document, which explains the processes and procedures in place to enable the council to carry out its functions effectively. It is produced following a review of the council's governance arrangements and is published with the Statement of Accounts. It includes an action plan to address any significant governance issues identified. It is good practice to review the action plan every 6 months.

The latest action plan was identified from the internal audit Annual Opinion in 2022/23 for inclusion in the Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 and regular reporting to Audit and Governance Committee.

Progress against these actions is set out below for noting.

Action	Lead	Status
Actions to address financial capacity and capability	AD – Governance and S151 Officer	Review undertaken supported by CIPFA, action plan in place and regularly being reviewed at a strategic level. All quarterly reports achieved to expected timescales. Statement of Accounts prepared in accordance with requirements.
Significant governance issues monitored and progress regularly reported	AD – Governance	Any governance issues will be reviewed and discussed at the monthly governance SLT meetings.
Actions to address the assurance of annual system parameters within the Housing Benefit system	S151 Officer (Revenues & Benefits)	Regular meetings to review oversight of revenues and benefits with the s151 officer and Portfolio Holder as appropriate.

Action is being taken in response to the identified governance issues. This will be reviewed as part of the development of the next Annual Governance Statement for 2023/24.