



## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

### **Public**

**Date of Meeting:** 25<sup>th</sup> September 2009

**Title:** Annual Governance Statement Action Plan

**Report of:** Director of Corporate Services

**Report reference:** CORP 34/09

### **Summary:**

This report appraises Members of progress made on the above Action Plan.

### **Recommendations:**

Members are requested to note the attached Action Plan and the current position relating to each of the areas that have been identified.

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## **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT - ACTION PLAN**

### Code of Corporate Governance - Background

The CIPFA/SOLACE Framework document “Delivering Good Governance in Local Government” requires the Council to revise and update its Code of Corporate Governance and to produce an Annual Governance Statement signed by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive.

The Framework also requires the Council to draw up an Action Plan in order to address weaknesses and to ensure that continuous improvement of the system of control is in place.

These documents were reported to Members of this Committee on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2008 - reports CORP26/08 and CORP27/08 refer.

### Action Plan

An updated Action Plan is attached to this report as **Appendix A** for Members' information.

Those actions that were identified in the Annual Governance Statement as “significant” have been identified thus (\*\*) on Appendix A.

In accordance with established practice, this Action Plan is monitored and the updated status is reported to Members of this Committee at each meeting.

There is one new areas of risk, arising from the Audit review of IT Security Policy, that has been added to the Action Plan.

### Recommendation

Members are requested to note the attached Action Plan and the current position relating to each of the areas that have been identified.

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## APPENDIX A

## ACTION PLAN - UPDATED 4th SEPTEMBER 2009.

	CURRENT STATUS AND ACTION REQUIRED	RESPONSIBILITY	TARGET DATE
1	Community Empowerment Pilots to be developed	Head of Policy and Performance	<b>Ongoing</b> – We are working towards producing an Action plan as part of the Harraby Pilot by the summer, although it will be determined by when local people feel they are ready and able to work with us to prioritise issues from their area. We are also working very closely with the County Council and many others – PCT, Police, Fire, CHA and the voluntary sector – they are all on the project team. Regular contact is made with the County from a more strategic viewpoint to keep informed about County-wide developments and how they influence and are influenced by what we are doing in Carlisle. There is also a main contact in the County for the Longtown Pilot where we are working with the Parish Council to support the community-led planning process and determining where best the empowerment pilot can “add value”. A paper is currently being prepared that will draw some conclusions from the learning and experiences so far and make some

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			recommendations around what next?
2 (**)	Ensure that the National Officer Code of Conduct is adopted in due course.	Head of Personnel and Development	<b>Ongoing.</b> A national statutory Code of Conduct for all local government employees has been awaited for some considerable time, and no date for its production is yet known. In view of the delay, the Head of Personnel and Development has decided to produce our own Code. A first draft is close to completion but there will then be a need for management approval and full consultation so it will still be some months before we have an adopted Code.
3 (**)	Significant weaknesses in areas of implementing the IT Security Policy.	Shared ITC Services Manager (Designate)	<b>Ongoing</b> – deadline is November 2009