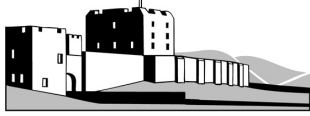


**CARLISLE
CITY COUNCIL**



www.carlisle.gov.uk

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Committee Report

Public

Date of Meeting: 14th January 2011

Title: ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ACTION PLAN

Report of: Assistant Director (Resources)

Report reference: RD68/10

Summary:

This report updates Members on progress made to the Annual Governance Statement 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.

Contact Officer: Alison Taylor

Ext. 7290

CITY OF CARLISLE

To: The Audit Committee
14th January 2011

RD 68/10

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT - ACTION PLAN

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The CIPFA/SOLACE Framework document “Delivering Good Governance in Local Government” (and subsequent application note) 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.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 CIPFA has issued “The Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government” which the Council must have regard to when preparing its Annual Governance Statement and when ensuring compliance with the principles contained within the Good Governance Framework.

2. ACTION PLAN

- 2.1 An updated Action Plan is attached to this report as **Appendix A** for Members’ information. The National Officer Code of Conduct issue has been removed from the appendix, as agreed at the previous Audit Committee, as the Council has prepared its own code which was approved by full Council in September 2010. There are no other issues identified as “significant”, which need to be brought to Members attention.
- 2.2 In accordance with established practice, this Action Plan is monitored and the updated status is reported to Members of this Committee at each meeting.
- 2.3 There are no new areas of risk arising from the Audit reviews or from the Risk Registers that need to be drawn to Members’ attention.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

PETER MASON
Assistant Director (Resources)

Contact Officer: Alison Taylor

Ext. 7290

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

APPENDIX A

ACTION PLAN – UPDATE JANUARY 2011

	<u>CURRENT STATUS AND ACTION REQUIRED</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>	<u>TARGET DATE</u>
1.	Community Empowerment Pilots to be developed	Assistant Director (Community Engagement)	<p>Ongoing - The Pilots are presently going through a period of formal evaluation and a special Community Overview &Scrutiny Panel was held on 12th October to discuss progress with partner agencies and community stakeholders who have been involved and to begin the process of considering lessons learnt and potential to further develop engagement and involvement initiatives in these and other areas of the City.</p> <p>The two pilots have taken significantly different approaches in developing the concept of empowerment, which in part, was due to the fact that there were significant differences in what the local communities wanted the outcomes to be. The evaluation will hopefully, provide tangible evidence of how successful or otherwise the approaches have been in achieving the main aims of the pilots, in terms of having influenced real change in the way agencies provide services in local neighbourhoods and in providing opportunities which have enabled local people to become more empowered and genuinely able to influence decisions that are made about their area.</p>