

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – WEDNESDAY,
19 JANUARY 2022**



Title of Report	PROGRESS OF IMPROVEMENTS IDENTIFIED THROUGH ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW 2019/20	
Presented by	Dan Bates Interim Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer	
Background Papers	None	Public Report: Yes
Purpose of Report	To provide Committee members with an update in respect of progress made against improvements identified as part of the 2019/20 Annual Governance Statement.	
Recommendations	THAT THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE NOTES AND COMMENTS ON THE REPORT	

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Members reviewed and approved the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) in respect of the 2019/20 year at its meeting on 22 July 2020.
- 1.2 A total of 5 improvement areas were identified through this review, where it was recognised that the Council could strengthen its governance arrangements.
- 1.3 Two of the areas for improvement were carried forward from the 2017/18 AGS review covering the approach to anti-fraud awareness and a new finance system. Significant progress has been made in respect of both these areas as set out in the appendix.
- 1.4 One area for improvement was carried forward from the 2018/19 AGS review relating to service benchmarking.
- 1.5 Two areas for improvement were identified in the 2019/20 AGS review covering service planning and the management of assets.
- 1.6 This update is the third update members have received on the progress of 2019/20 improvements, following on from the report to the January meeting of this committee.

2.0 PROGRESS MADE IN RESPECT OF IMPROVEMENT AREAS 2019/20

- 2.1 Of the 5 improvements identified, 3 are now complete and for the remaining 2, substantial progress has been made since the last report to this Committee in July. Further monitoring of these improvements as well as any improvements identified in the 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement review will be reported to this committee every six months.
- 2.2 Full details can be found in Appendix A.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	Good governance underpins the council's ability to deliver against all of its priorities.
Policy Considerations:	None.
Safeguarding:	None.
Equalities/Diversity:	None.
Customer Impact:	None.
Economic and Social Impact:	None.
Environment and Climate Change:	None.
Consultation/Community Engagement:	None.
Risks:	None.
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