

Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority



MEETING	Overview and Audit Committee
DATE OF MEETING	24 September 2014
OFFICER	Graham Britten, Director of Legal and Governance David Skinner, Director of Finance and Assets
LEAD MEMBER	Councillor David Watson (Chairman, Overview & Audit Committee)
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Annual Governance Statement 2013/14
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>The purpose of this report is to present the 2013/14 Annual Governance Statement (appended as an Annex to the report). This contains the progress on the implementation of the recommendations of the 2012/13 Annual Governance Statement and to highlight recommendations for 2014/15.</p> <p>The Annual Governance Statement has been based upon the six core principles of good governance set out in the CIPFA/SOLACE guidance (2007, revised and updated 2012):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Focusing on the purpose of the Authority and on outcomes for the community and creating and implementing a vision for the local area. 2. Members and officers working together to achieve a common purpose with clearly defined functions and roles. 3. Promoting values for the Authority and demonstrating the values of good governance through upholding high standards of conduct and behaviour. 4. Taking informed and transparent decisions which are subject to effective scrutiny and managing risk. 5. Developing the capacity and capability of members and officers to be effective. 6. Engaging with local people and other stakeholders to ensure robust public accountability.
ACTION	Decision.
RECOMMENDATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Annual Governance Statement be approved. 2. That the progress on the implementation of recommendations of the previous Annual Governance Statement (Appendix A to the Annual Governance

	Statement) be acknowledged. 3. That the priorities of the 2014-15 Statement (Appendix B to the Annual Governance Statement) be agreed.
RISK MANAGEMENT	Any risk implications of completion or non-completion of the recommendations are included in the relevant report.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	Regulation 4(3) of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 requires the Committee to approve an annual governance statement which must accompany the statement of accounts.
HEALTH AND SAFETY	There are no direct Health & Safety implications arising from the report.
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY	There are no direct equality and diversity implications arising from this report.
USE OF RESOURCES	Communication and consultation The officers with responsibility for the areas audited have been responsible for supplying the information and responses necessary for this report. Progress monitoring Further updates will be provided at future committee meetings.
PROVENANCE SECTION & BACKGROUND PAPERS	Report to Overview and Audit Committee of the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority held on 25 September 2013, Item 8. http://bucksfire.gov.uk/files/3514/0633/2179/OA260613.pdf CIPFA / SOLACE 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government - Guidance Note for English Authorities' http://www.solace.org.uk/knowledge/reports_guides/goodgovernance-England-2007-02.pdf
APPENDICES	Annex - Annual Governance Statement 2013/14. Appendix A to Annex – Progress of Annual Governance Statement 2012/13. Appendix B to Annex – Recommendations for Priorities for 2014/15.
TIME REQUIRED	15 minutes.
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