

Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority



MEETING	Overview and Audit Committee
DATE OF MEETING	17 July 2019
OFFICER	Graham Britten, Director of Legal and Governance Mark Hemming, Deputy Director of Finance and Assets
LEAD MEMBER	Chairman of the Overview and Audit Committee
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Annual Governance Statement 2018/19
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>The purpose of this report is to present the 2018/19 Annual Governance Statement (appended as an Annex to the report). This contains the progress on the implementation of the recommendations of the 2017/18 Annual Governance Statement and to highlight recommendations for 2019/20.</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. <p>This report also provides details of the seven new principles with proposals for their use in future Annual Governance Statements (Annex 2)</p>
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 for 2019/20 (Appendix B to the Annual Governance Statement) be agreed. 4. That the proposal for the Annual Governance Statement be reformatted for 19/20 by reference to the seven principles in the CIPFA/SOLACE "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework" (2016) be noted.
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	Regulations 6(1)(b) and 6(4)(b) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require the Committee to approve an annual governance statement which must accompany the statement of accounts and be approved in advance of the approval of the statement of accounts.
CONSISTENCY WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE DUTY TO COLLABORATE	No direct impact.
HEALTH AND SAFETY	There are no direct health and safety implications arising from the report.
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY	There are no direct equality and diversity implications arising from this report.
USE OF RESOURCES	<p>Communication and consultation The officers with responsibility for the areas audited have been responsible for supplying the information and responses necessary for this report.</p> <p>Progress monitoring Further updates will be provided at future committee meetings.</p>
PROVENANCE SECTION & BACKGROUND PAPERS	<p>Report to Overview and Audit Committee of the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority held on 26 July 2017, Item 9:</p> <p>http://bucksfire.gov.uk/files/1015/0028/6272/ITEM_9</p>

	<p>Annual Governance Statement 2016-17 with Annex.pdf</p> <p>CIPFA / SOLACE 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government - Guidance Notes for English Authorities' 2016 Edition:</p> <p>Link</p> <p>Following a review undertaken by CIPFA and SOLACE, in 2016, the 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework' was reissued. The document was based on the 'International Framework: Good Governance in the Public Sector (2014)' which included sustainable economic, societal and environmental outcomes as a key focus for governance processes and structure. CIPFA/SOLACE therefore revised its 6 principles to create 7 new principles which included specifically 'Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, and environmental benefits'.</p>
APPENDICES	<p>Annex 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2018/19.</p> <p>Appendix A to Annex – Progress of Annual Governance Statement 2017/18.</p> <p>Appendix B to Annex – Recommendations for Priorities for 2019/20.</p> <p>Annex 2 –Good Governance Framework</p>
TIME REQUIRED	10 minutes.
REPORT ORIGINATOR AND CONTACT	<p>Graham Britten, Director of Legal and Governance gbritten@bucksfire.gov.uk</p> <p>Mark Hemming, Deputy Director of Finance and Assets mhemming@bucksfire.gov.uk</p>