



Audit and Governance Committee

Date:	11 May 2022
Reference number:	N/A
Title:	2020/21 Draft Annual Governance Statement
Cabinet Member(s):	N/A
Contact officer:	Richard Ambrose, Director of Corporate Finance (S151) Maggie Gibb, Head of Business Assurance (& Chief Auditor)
Ward(s) affected:	N/A
Recommendations:	Members are recommended to approve the report
Reason for decision:	N/A

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 This report contains the draft Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21. This is the first AGS for Buckinghamshire Council and relates to the first year of operation as a unitary authority, with a focus on our response to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 1.2 The AGS is usually presented with the Statement of Accounts, however due to the delay in presenting these it has been decided to bring the draft AGS to this meeting and the final version will be presented to the meeting in July.
- 1.3 The AGS was agreed by the Corporate Management Team on 14 April 2022.

2. Content of report

- 2.1 The Annual Governance Statement (AGS) has been drafted by giving due consideration to the Council's sources of assurance on internal control and is structured in accordance with CIPFA guidance.

2.2 The role of the Audit and Governance Committee is to review the AGS to provide assurance that it reflects the evidence considered by the Committee over the year (2020/21), and that the actions identified are appropriate. The draft AGS can be updated in the period up until the Statement of Accounts are recommended for approval at the Audit and Governance Committee in July.

2.3 Once the Committee has approved the statement it will be presented to the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council for signing and be published on the Buckinghamshire County Council website with the Statement of Accounts once approved.

3. Other options considered

3.1 N/A.

4. Legal and financial implications

4.1 None.

5. Corporate implications

5.1 None.

6. Local councillors & community boards consultation & views

6.1 N/A

7. Communication, engagement & further consultation

7.1 N/A.

8. Next steps and review

8.1 The final version of the AGS will be presented to the Audit and Governance Committee in July.

9. Background papers

9.1 None.

