

Introduction

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael Wilson) and Chief Executive (Gill Kneller) both recognise the importance of having good systems in place to manage and deliver services to the residents of Havant Borough. Each year the Council is required to produce an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) which describes how its corporate governance arrangements have been working.

This AGS is in respect of 2018/19. The Council also publishes an Annual Report which provides further information on the opportunities and challenges faced by the Council.

The purpose of the governance framework

The governance framework comprises the systems and processes, culture and values, by which the Council directs and controls its activities, and how it leads, engages with and accounts to the community it serves. The framework brings together an underlying set of legislative requirements, good practice principles and management processes and enables the Council to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost-effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to an acceptable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve the Council's aims and objectives, and seeks to provide reasonable rather than absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify, prioritise and manage the risks to the achievement of the Council's aims and objectives.

The governance framework addresses the way the Council is controlled and managed, both strategically and operationally, and how it will deliver its services. The Framework recognises that the Council's business is focussed upon its corporate priorities and seeks to facilitate delivery to our local communities.

The structures and processes, risk management and other internal control systems, such as standards of conduct and Audit, form part of this Framework, which is about managing the barriers to achieving the Council's objectives. Members and senior officers are responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of the Council's affairs and the stewardship of the resources at its disposal. This task is managed by the Executive Board which comprises the Chief Executive, Executive Directors, Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) with advice and guidance provided by the Monitoring Officer. The Council has designed systems and processes to regulate, monitor and control its activities to achieve its vision and objectives.

How do we know it is working?

The annual process that we use to maintain and review effectiveness of our governance arrangements includes a wide input.

Procedures, rules and internal management processes

- Delivery of Corporate Plan priorities
- Services are delivered economically, efficiently & effectively
- Management of risk
- Financial planning and performance
- Effective internal controls
- Community engagement & public accountability
- Shared service governance
- Project management & project delivery
- Procurement processes
- Roles & responsibilities of Members & Officers
- Standards of conduct & behaviour
- Training and development of Members & Officers
- Compliance with laws & regulations, internal policies & procedures

Sources that provide assurance

- *Constitution (incl. statutory officers, scheme of delegation, financial management and procurement rules)*
- *Council, Cabinet, Committees and Panels*
- *Corporate and service business plans*
- *Joint Human Resources Committee*
- *Executive Board*
- *Project management methodology*
- *Financial and Performance Monitoring Suite*
- *Medium Term Financial Strategy*
- *Complaints system*
- *Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and S151 Officer*
- *HR policies & procedures*
- *Whistleblowing & other policies countering fraud*
- *Staff and Member training*
- *Codes of conduct*
- *Internal Audit*
- *External Audit*
- *Executive Management Team*

Ongoing assessment of our effectiveness

- *Annual AGS questionnaire*
- *Regular performance and financial reporting*
- *Annual financial report*
- *External audit reports*
- *Internal audit reports*
- *Officer governance groups*
- *Customer feedback*
- *Council's democratic arrangements including scrutiny reviews and the audit committee*
- *Staff surveys*
- *Community consultations*

2018-19 areas identified for improvement in 2019-20

Review of the functioning of the combined Scrutiny, Audit & Standards Committee

Services need to ensure that they have clearly communicated and embedded effective governance arrangements, policy management and performance management

Management of major contracts

How we apply the Governance Framework to the Local Code of Corporate Governance

The Council aims to achieve effective corporate governance through the Code of Corporate Governance. The table below highlights examples of how the Council has adhered to its governance commitments as set out in the Code and includes hyperlinks to sources of further information which include more detail about how the Council has implemented its commitments.

A. BEHAVING WITH INTEGRITY, DEMONSTRATING STRONG COMMITMENT TO ETHICAL VALUES AND RESPECTING THE RULE OF LAW	
How the Council meets these principles	Where you can see Governance in action
<p>There are codes of conduct in place for all Councillors and Officers. The Council has appointed independent persons to investigate any allegations of misconduct, and the Governance, Audit and Finance Board receives regular reports from the Monitoring Officer on complaints regarding Councillors.</p> <p>The Council's Constitution contains the standing orders, scheme of delegation, financial regulations and contracts procedure rules. The Constitution also contains the policies for anti-fraud and corruption, anti-bribery and whistleblowing.</p> <p>All Council employees have clear conditions of employment, and roles and responsibilities are set out in job descriptions.</p> <p>There is a requirement for Councillors to make a Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests within 28 days of taking office and to notify the Council of any changes to the interests made in this declaration within a specified time period. Councillors must also disclose interests which are not registered but which are relevant to matters to be discussed at a meeting of the authority. Councillors are barred from participating in any discussion in, or vote on, the matter in relation to which the member has a disclosable pecuniary interest. There is an up-to-date register of gifts and hospitality and minutes show declarations of interest were sought and appropriate declarations made through annual declarations.</p> <p>The Council has in place a complaints procedure including weekly reminders to relevant managers responsible. The Council has a shared Monitoring Officer with East Hampshire District Council and as a member of the Executive Board he is kept apprised on the Council's projects and actions and is ultimately responsible for legal compliance.</p>	<p>Councillor Code of Conduct Staff Code of Conduct</p> <p>Constitution</p> <p>Anti Fraud & Corruption Policy including Fraud Response Plan</p> <p>Whistleblowing Policy</p>

Statutory officer roles are the Head of Paid Service who is the Chief Executive, the Chief Financial (S151) Officer, who carries overall responsibility for the Council's financial administration and is a member of the Executive Board, and the Monitoring Officer, who ensures the Council acts lawfully. All three roles are shared with East Hampshire District Council.

B. ENSURING OPENESS AND COMPREHENSIVE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

How the Council meets these principles

Where you can see Governance in action

The Council has laid out its purpose, direction, vision and objectives in its Council Strategy which can be obtained either on the Council's website or from the Council's offices. The Council Corporate Strategy is comprehensively reviewed regularly, and is underpinned by the key themes of: Financial Sustainability; Economic Growth; Public Service Excellence; Environmental Sustainability; and Creativity and Innovation. Business plans are prepared to support the Corporate Strategy.

<http://www.havant.gov.uk/performance-and-strategy>

The Council is committed to transparency and an open culture and publicises information in line with the publication scheme under the Freedom of Information Act. In addition, we subscribe to the Government's transparency agenda and publish information such as remuneration for senior management, and information on items of expenditure over £500.

[Freedom of Information](#)

The Council's democratic function is responsible for ensuring agendas and key decisions are published in line with the statutory legal requirements. They are also responsible for supporting the scrutiny function of the Council and publishing a corporate calendar of dates annually.

[Committees and Papers](#)

The Council carried out a residents' survey in 2018 the results of which were shared with Service Heads to inform their services to residents. The next residents survey is due to take place in summer 2020. In addition to the publication of the residents' magazine, called 'Serving You', the Council has a Facebook page and Twitter feed which is actively promoted and used. To promote transparency and wider engagement with Council decisions, residents can use social media such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram as well as YouTube to get updates from and interact with the Council.

[Serving You magazine](#)

[HBC Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Instagram](#)

[YouTube](#)

The Council's website is set out in a clear and easily accessible way, using infographics and plain language. The

information which residents use most, such as Council Tax and Waste and Recycling can be accessed quickly and easily from the homepage.

A narrative summary in Statement of Accounts and Annual Report providing a clear overview of the Council's activity over the previous year, so that residents can see where money has been spent and what this has achieved.

The Council has a Joint Venture with Norse (Norse South East) for waste collection which is governed by the Norse South East Board which has members from Norse Commercial Services and the Council on the Board. Norse South East is responsible for the procurement and efficient management of waste and recycling collections, street cleaning, public convenience cleansing, grounds maintenance and associated service facilities for the treatment and disposal of residual waste.

<http://www.havant.gov.uk/>

[http://www.havant.gov.uk/](http://www.havant.gov.uk/accounts)
[accounts](#)
[Annual Report](#)

<http://norsesoutheast.co.uk/>

C. DEFINING OUTCOMES IN TERMS OF SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

How the Council meets these principles

Where you can see Governance in action

The Council takes an annual approach to business planning, allowing a close link between business and financial planning. The Financial Management Strategy is reviewed annually and forms the basis of the annual budgeting process. The Council's operational services are divided into Directorates. Business plans for each directorate are agreed annually and identify objectives and targets for all services. The Directorate Key Performance Indicators are monitored corporately. Monthly financial forecasts are submitted to the Executive Board and quarterly to Councillors alongside the Performance Indicator information.

[Council Budget & Business Plan](#)

The Council's budget report contains a summary of the budget and business plans that had been set for Havant Borough Council for 2018/19, as approved by the Council on the 21st February 2018. It shows on what service areas money was to be spent, and how this expenditure was funded. Also within this document is information showing the forecast financial position over the next three years, taking into account changes in government funding, other income and spending.

The Council uses evidence based insight to inform decision making and uses the data available to understand residents and local businesses better. The Council is committed to consulting with and engaging with residents and local businesses in the planning and delivery of services to meet the needs of the community.

D. DETERMINING THE INTERVENTIONS NECESSARY TO OPTIMISE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE INTENDED OUTCOMES

How the Council meets these principles	Where you can see Governance in action
<p>Public Accountability is the way in which the Council engages with local stakeholders to ensure robust public accountability. The Council's Corporate Strategy is formulated following the results of a survey which seeks feedback from the public, Councillors, staff and other key stakeholders. The Council has a Medium Term Financial Strategy which is available on the Council's website, which is used to align resources to key priorities. The Council has report templates to ensure authors cover all the requirements to enable a decision to be made; they include options appraisal (if required), cost and risk analysis in addition to key signatories such as legal and finance and must include the portfolio holder.</p> <p>All decision-making meetings are held in public and decisions made by Cabinet members and officers are published in line with the statutory legal requirements, although some items are considered as exempt. Minutes of all Council meetings are made available to the public, and members of the public have the opportunity to contribute to Council meetings. The Council has a complaints and feedback system, which records and monitors customer comments, complaints and requests for information.</p>	<p>Corporate Strategy</p> <p>Medium Term Financial Strategy</p> <p>Council Decisions</p>

E. DEVELOPING THE COUNCILS CAPACITY, INCLUDING THE CAPABILITY OF ITS LEADERSHIP AND THE INDIVIDUALS WITHIN IT

How the Council meets these principles	Where you can see Governance in action
<p>The Council has a joint management team with East Hampshire District Council. This management team is made up of the Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer, two Executive Directors and the Heads of Service, most of which are shared with East Hampshire District Council.</p> <p>The Waste Collection service is provided in a Joint Venture with Norse (Norse South East). The costs of all shared management posts are shared between the Councils. A number of the Council's corporate services are delivered through the 5 Councils Partnership with Capita which is monitored via a shared Client Team.</p>	<p>Management Structure</p>

<p>The Council has a performance management framework, this includes induction and performance appraisal processes for all employees. Training programmes are identified for officers as part of the performance appraisal process. This information is fed into the Corporate Training Programme. In 2018-19 mandatory e-learning for staff on data protection and fraud awareness, safeguarding, equalities and diversity has been undertaken.</p> <p>Following the Borough Council Elections, all Councillors are required to undertake a comprehensive and compulsory training programme. This includes Planning training, Code of Conduct training and Licensing training. Councillors are not allowed to sit on the Planning or Licensing Committees until such training has been undertaken. The training programme ensures that they have an understanding of the procedures and protocols of the Council.</p> <p>In addition to the compulsory training, a series of other courses and events are also offered. Under the Councillor Development Programme, during the course of a Councillor's four year term of office, regular skills audits are undertaken to identify any new skills requirements or refresher training requirements.</p>	<p>Performance & Strategy</p>
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F. MANAGING THE RISKS AND PERFORMANCE THROUGH ROBUST INTERNAL CONTROL AND STRONG PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	
How the Council meets these principles	Where you can see Governance in action
<p>The Council ensures that the roles and responsibilities for decision making and governance arrangements are defined and allocated, so that there is clear accountability for decisions made and actions taken. The Council does this by appointing a Leader and a Cabinet, which allocates specific executive responsibilities.</p> <p>There are also a number of committees appointed to discharge regulatory and scrutiny functions. Each committee has clear terms of reference setting out roles and responsibilities. All leadership roles, the roles of key officers and the Council's Scheme of Delegation are set out within the Council Constitution.</p> <p>The Cabinet operates within the policy framework set by Full Council, and makes key decisions. All Cabinet meetings are held in public, with the exception of exempt items. All decision records are publicly available, and the Forward Plan and Key Decision notice is published on the Council website. Decisions made by Cabinet can be called in for review by the Governance, Audit and Finance Board. Decisions can also be made by officers under delegated powers and reported to Councillors in line with the Council Constitution. Authority to make decisions is given in the Scheme of</p>	<p>Council structure</p> <p>Committee structure</p> <p>Forward Plan</p>

<p>Delegation and by specific delegation by Cabinet or Council.</p> <p>Risk is considered and recorded as part of the business planning process, and monitored throughout the year as part of the quarterly review of performance and financial management (quarterly healthcheck). The Council has a wide range of performance indicators, which are used to measure progress against the Council's priorities. Performance indicators are reported quarterly to the Executive Board and informally to the Cabinet. Performance indicators clearly link individual services to the corporate objectives and include details of national and local performance indicators and risk. Individual performance plans link to directorate business plans and the Corporate Strategy. Performance Indicators are reviewed annually as part of the business planning process to ensure they continue to be relevant and stretching.</p> <p>A Corporate Governance Board has been established with an objective of providing a pragmatic layer of assurance to the business. Specifically, the Corporate Governance Board ensures that the organisation develops and implements an effective approach to corporate governance which enables the business and affairs of the Council to be carried out, directed and managed with the objective of enhancing value to the public. This will be underpinned by the Local Code of Corporate Governance. In addition, the Corporate Governance Board is responsible for ensuring that an adequate risk management framework and associated control environment exists within the Council, and for monitoring the arrangements in place for the identification, monitoring and management of risks.</p> <p>The Council utilises the LG Inform tool which allows for benchmarking and data sharing against other local authorities across the country.</p> <p>The Council has in place a number of policies and procedures to ensure decisions made are robust. These are included in the Finance and Contracts Procedure rules in the Constitution. Compliance with these policies is the responsibility of all officers.</p>	<p>Corporate Governance Policy</p> <p>Local Code of Corporate Governance</p> <p>https://lginform.local.gov.uk/</p> <p>Policy Hub</p>
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G. IMPLEMENTING GOOD PRACTICES IN TRANSPARENCY REPORTING AND AUDIT TO DELIVER EFFECTIVE ACCOUNTABILITY	
How the Council meets these principles	Where you can see Governance in action
The Council produces an annual report which can be found on the Council's website. The report not only shows the	Annual Report

<p>council's successes of the last financial year, but highlights the direction of travel for our future. The Council publishes the Statement of Accounts annually within the statutory timescales. Accounting Statements incorporate the full requirements of best practice guidance.</p> <p>The Council has a Governance, Audit and Finance Board to provide assurance to the Council on the effectiveness of Internal Audit and the robustness of the Council's Annual Accounts. Risk management is controlled through the Corporate Governance Board and reported to Executive Board through the corporate governance report and quarterly healthcheck. Risks rated as above the risk threshold are reported as part of the quarterly healthcheck to Councillors.</p> <p>Full Council is responsible for agreeing new policies and amendments to existing policies. It also sets out the policy and budget framework, and approves the annual budget. Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee approves the Statement of Accounts.</p> <p>The Council is subject to independent external audit currently by Ernst & Young. The External Audit plan outlines the work undertaken and the timing of external audit reports. The Council supplements this work with an internal audit service sourced through the Southern Internal Audit Partnership. The Governance, Audit and Finance Board undertake the core functions of an audit committee.</p> <p>The Council has appointed the Chief Finance Officer as the Section 151 Officer with the statutory responsibility for the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs. The Internal Audit service has an annual audit plan based on a risk analysis carried out by the auditors each spring. This minimises the risk of fraud and error, and provides management with assurance that policies and procedures are robust.</p>	<p>Statement of Accounts</p> <p>GAF Board</p> <p>Full Council</p> <p>External Audit Internal Audit</p>
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Review of effectiveness

The Council has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the following areas:

Political leadership - Officer leadership - Internal Assessment & Monitoring - Review of responsibilities of CFO -Internal Audit - External Audit.

Area	Review of effectiveness
Political leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council’s Governance, Audit and Finance Board is also responsible for monitoring, scrutinising and holding the decision makers to account. It meets five times per year as the Council’s official audit committee. The Board ensures that the Internal and External Audit reports it receives are robust. • The Governance, Audit and Finance Board review of the elements of the governance framework to ensure they are in place and effective. In 2018/19 they also reviewed the system of internal audit and concluded it was effective and remained a key source of assurance for the Council. • The monitoring role of the Governance, Audit and Finance Board to monitor standards of conduct of Members and advised the Council on probity issues. Entries made in the Register of Members’ Interests were reviewed by the Monitoring Officer.
Officer leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maintenance of the Council’s Constitution which was last reviewed in 2018/19 and approved at the start of the 2019/20 municipal year. The Constitution is reviewed on an annual basis. • The Council’s Monitoring Officer’s legal responsibility to report on matters of unlawfulness within the Council. In 2018/19 the Monitoring Officer continued his review of the efficiency and effectiveness of all arrangements relating to Council and Committee meetings, working groups, and the required officer support and will be reporting on this to full council • The Corporate Governance Board quarterly report to the Executive Board on governance matters covering risk, Health and Safety, Business Continuity, Emergency Planning, Information Risk and Financial Risk and updates are provided to Members through the quarterly healthcheck.
Internal Assessment & Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular reporting arrangements on the financial affairs of the Council. The budget for 2018/19 was agreed by Full Council on 21st February 2018 and financial performance reported on a quarterly basis to Members. • Effective operation of the Performance Management Framework throughout the year. Monitoring information on key areas of performance has been provided by the Programme Office for review and action. • As part of the process of identifying any areas where governance needs to be strengthened across the organisation, services have for the first time completed an online questionnaire indicating where they comply with each of the criteria in the Code of Corporate Governance. The AGS questionnaire highlighted the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Areas of Strength <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engagement with Members ▪ Budget & business plan setting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FOI procedure ○ Areas for improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Awareness of structure and operation of committees ▪ Awareness of staff codes of conduct ▪ Monitoring of mandatory e-learning courses
<p>Responsibilities of Chief Finance Officer (s151)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chief Finance Officer is the Responsible Financial Officer and is a member of the Executive Board. They are responsible for delivering and overseeing the financial management arrangements of the Council. East Hampshire District Council shares a Chief Finance Officer with Havant Borough Council. The Chief Finance Officer reports directly to the Chief Executive. • Ensuring alignment with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting for 2018/19. Havant Borough Council's financial management arrangements conform to the governance requirements of the CIPFA Statement on the Role of the CFO in Local Government (2016).
<p>Internal Audit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's Internal Audit provided by the Southern Internal Audit Partnership which is hosted by Hampshire County Council. An audit plan, based on a full risk evaluation, is approved annually. • Progress against the audit plan is reported quarterly to the Governance, Audit & Finance Board. Any outstanding high risk actions are addressed as a matter of priority. • Internal Audit attend the Corporate Governance Board to provide an update on progress of management actions and report quarterly to Executive Board • The Southern Internal Audit Partnership delivered XX review areas over the course of the year ending 31 March 2019 including all carry forward reviews. The Chief Internal Auditor's opinion of Havant Borough's framework of governance, risk management and management control is 'XX' and audit testing has demonstrated controls to be working in practice.
<p>External Audit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's External Audit requirement is provided by Ernst & Young LLP. • The role of External Audit is to ensure that the Council's Accounts are free from material error, to provide a value for money conclusion and to certify key grant claims. • In September 2018 the Council's external auditor provided the Council with an unqualified opinion on the Council's accounts within their Audit Results Report. • Ernst & Young LLP also provided an unqualified opinion of the Council's arrangements to secure Value for Money.

Last year's key improvement area

In the 2017/18 Annual Governance Statement, four key issues were identified. Below are the issues and actions taken during 2018/19.

Improvement area	Issue of concern	Action taken
<p>Management of major contracts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-Councils Contract/6-Councils Partnership • Norse South East 	<p>5-Councils Contract/6-Councils Partnership Movement towards the new target operating models (TOMs) have been delayed. As a result, transition is delayed and has required independent mediation in some areas. Initial issues have been resolved. Significant resource is still required to ensure that the council transitions smoothly to the new service TOMs.</p> <p>Changes were also agreed with respect to the Capita contract which improved terms for the Councils and although savings derived reduced, they become more deliverable</p> <p>Norse South East The Council has a Joint Venture with Norse (Norse South East) for waste collection which is governed by the Norse South East Board which has members from Norse Commercial Services and the Council on the Board.</p>	<p>5-Councils Contract/6-Councils Partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme of work established to review Capita services which commenced during the year and will be completed in 2019-20 with recommended options • Management of contract continues through regular review of performance via Client Team • Ensured that governance arrangements are fully embedded and operational – further Internal Audit took place in 2018/19. <p>Norse South East</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on re-negotiation of contract following agreement to supply services to East Hampshire District Council. • Review of governance and reporting regime expected to be completed during contract negotiations in 2019-20. • Ensured that governance arrangements are fully embedded and operational – further Internal Audit took place in 2018/19.
<p>Partnership of shared services and service delivery models</p>	<p>The Council has a number of complex models of delivery for its public service including our shared management team and our Coastal Partnership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the year the management team and directorates were restructured resulting in a Corporate Services Directorate, Operations & Neighbourhoods Directorate and Regeneration & Place Directorate. The new structure has allowed for closer scrutiny of our partnership models. • Head of Strategic Commissioning is responsible for our major contracts and has oversight of our 5-Councils Partnership and our Joint Venture.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Shared Service Agreement is in place for our Coastal Partnership which oversees how the Partnership is governed. A Partnership Report is published every two years.
GDPR	The Council needs to ensure completion of works to be compliant and the embedding of the principles of GDPR across the Council's services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Audit completed during year with progression from 'Limited' assurance to 'Adequate' assurance. • Further work continues on embedding of GDPR requirements across the Council including updating of guidance documents when completing Council reports in order to ensure consideration of GDPR requirements when making decisions
Accounting Code and Prudential Code (2017/18)	CIPFA introduced a number of minor amendments to the 2017/18 Accounting Code and published a new version of the Prudential Code.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor amendments all incorporated as required by the 2017-18 Accounting Code and Prudential Code.

Identified key improvement areas

The Council is generally satisfied with the effectiveness of corporate governance arrangements and internal control. As part of its continuing efforts to improve governance arrangements the following issues, as highlighted in this Statement, have been identified for improvement in 2019/20.

Issue of concern	Key improvement	Lead officer	Action required
Review of the functioning of the	To align the Scrutiny Committee function with the new	David Brown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend the current committee

<p>combined Scrutiny, Audit & Standards Committee</p>	<p>guidance issued on 8 May 2019.</p> <p>To empower Audit to provide greater value on the issue of governance.</p> <p>To provide Standards Committee the opportunity to engage in fully in expected Standards in public life.</p>		<p>structure to articulate clear separation of Executive and Non-Executive functions</p>
<p>Services need to ensure that they have clearly communicated and embedded effective governance arrangements, policy management and performance management</p>	<p>Continued improvement of governance and communication of policies and associated guidance, including embedding new ways of working. This includes strong messages around compliance and accountability and a planned programme of work to identify and tackle areas of non-compliance</p> <p>Review of the Performance Management Framework covering both corporate performance and personal performance</p>	<p>Lydia Morrison</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy and guidance review; including those policies that require updating • Communication of policies to staff • Programme of work identifying areas of non-compliance • Update Performance Management Framework to ensure a stronger link between corporate performance and officer performance and review performance measures to embed a performance culture in the organisation
<p>Management of major contracts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-Councils Contract/6-Councils Partnership • Waste contract 	<p>Strengthening the Council's approach to commissioning, procurement and contract management in particular with respect to the following contracts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-Councils/6-Councils Partnership • Waste contract 	<p>Natalie Meagher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure any changes to the Capita contract are appropriately negotiated, managed and delivered • Ensure smooth transition to the new waste contract arrangements, providing East Hampshire District Council with waste services • Review performance

			management and reporting arrangements of all major contracts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement any recommendations from Contract Management Internal Audit 2018-19
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Opinion

It is our opinion that corporate governance, along with supporting controls and procedures, is strong. We propose over the coming year to take steps to address the above matters to further enhance our corporate governance arrangements. We are satisfied that these steps will address the need for improvements that were identified in our review of effectiveness and we will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

Signed

CEO

Leader

Glossary

Annual Governance Statement (AGS)	Annual Governance Statement which describes how corporate governance arrangements have been working for a period of time indicated
Budget	The estimate of income and expenditure for a set period of time, for the Council this covers the financial year 1 April until 31 March each year and includes all the financial resources allocated to different services and projects.
Code of conduct	The Code sets the standards and behaviour expected of councillors and co-opted members

Constitution	The Council's constitution contains the standing orders, scheme of delegation, financial regulations and contracts procedure rules. The Constitution also contains the policies for anti-fraud and corruption, anti-bribery and whistleblowing.
Corporate Strategy	Document detailing the purpose, direction, vision and objectives of the organisation
Corporate Governance Board	The Corporate Governance Board meets quarterly to provide assurance to the business on matters of corporate governance. Specifically, the Corporate Governance Board ensures that the organisation develops and implements an effective approach to corporate governance which enables the business and affairs of the Council to be carried out, directed and managed with the objective of enhancing value to the public.
Data Protection Officer	A Data Protection Officer (DPO) is a role required by GDPR. Data Protection Officers are responsible for overseeing data protection strategy and implementation to ensure compliance with GDPR requirements
Executive Board	The meeting of chief officers comprising of the Chief Executive, Executive Directors, Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) with advice and guidance provided by the Monitoring Officer.
Executive Management Team	Comprises the Chief Executive, Executive Directors, Chief Finance Officer and Heads of Service
Data Protection Act 2018	The Data Protection Act 2019 and associated General Data Protection Regulations which came into force in May 2018. This strengthens the regulatory environment for data owners, controller and processors and aligns legislation with other European countries.
Governance, Audit & Scrutiny Committee	The Governance, Audit & Scrutiny Committee considers the Council's governance arrangements and ensures that the financial affairs of the Council are properly conducted.
Head of Paid Service	The most senior officer with overall responsibility for the management and operation of the Council. Also known as the Chief Executive
Healthcheck	A quarterly review of Council performance covering financial and business plan progression for that quarter
Key Performance Indicators	A measurable value that demonstrates how effectively the organisation is achieving against its key objectives
Licensing Committee	Committee of councillors that undertake all licensing and gambling functions, powers and duties conferred on the Council under the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005.
Local Plan	A Local Plan sets out the local planning policies and identifies how land is used, determining what will be built where. Once a local plan becomes adopted it provides the framework for development within an area.
Local Code of Corporate Governance	The Local Code of Corporate Governance describes the arrangements in place to ensure that the council conducts its business in accordance with the law and proper standards and that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively.
Medium Term Financial Strategy	The Council's key financial planning document. It aims to provide the Council with an assurance that the spending plans are affordable over the medium term (five years). The MTFs includes a five year budget forecast that is reviewed annually as part of the budget setting process.

Monitoring Officer	The officer charged with ensuring that everything that the Council does is fair and lawful
Planning Committee	Committee of councillors that sit as the local planning authority to determine planning applications (not delegated to officers).
Policy Framework	The plans and strategies, which have been adopted by the Full Council in accordance with which the Leader of the Council, Cabinet, committees and officers must operate
Residents' Survey	Survey held approximately every two years to gather residents' views of the District and services offered by the Council
Section 151 Officer	The officer responsible for the administration of the financial affairs of the Council (under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972). Also known as the Chief Finance Officer
Statement of Accounts	The Statement of Accounts show, in financial terms, the performance of the council for the year indicated. It is a statutory publication produced in accordance with legislative requirements and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom.
Target Operating Model	The Target Operating Model refers to the 5-Council Contract/6-Council Partnership shared service contract method of delivery. Once a service is outsourced a number of changes will be implemented in order for that service to be delivered according to the contract specification, once it has reached contract specification it is delivering against its Target Operating Model
5-Council Contract/6-Council Partnership	A contract between Havant Borough Council, Hart District Council, Mendip District Council, South Oxfordshire District Council and Vale of White Horse District Council to secure better value for money services for residents through shared contracts. East Hampshire District Council joined at the sixth partner through the shared service arrangement it holds with Havant Borough Council.