

Audit, Standards and Risk Committee

27 January 2022

Governance Improvement Plan 2021/22 – Progress Update

Is the paper exempt from the press and public?	No
Purpose of this report:	Monitoring/Assurance
Is this a Key Decision?	No
Has it been included on the Forward Plan?	Not a Key Decision

Director Approving Submission of the Report:

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Executive Summary

This paper updates the Committee on progress against the 2021/22 Governance Improvement Plan.

What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

Continually improving governance enables the Combined Authority to pursue its ambitions and objectives in the most effective and efficient way, bringing about better outcomes for people and businesses in South Yorkshire.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to consider progress against the plan to consider whether the monitoring updates provides the assurance required of progress against the 21/22 plan.

Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel

Audit and Standards Committee

28 October 2021

1. Background

- 1.1 CIPFA guidance on the preparation of an Annual Governance Statement prescribes that the statement should include an 'agreed action plan showing actions taken, or proposed, to deal with significant governance issues' (Governance Improvement Plan). This paper provides an update on the progress of the Governance Improvement Plan for 2021/22 which forms part of the Annual Governance Statement for the previous financial year. The Governance Improvement Plan can be found at appendix A.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The Governance Improvement Plan, highlights issues by assigning status, highlighting actions that are:
- Completed
 - On-track
 - Slipped
- 2.2 Since developing the plan a number of actions have been identified as having a development and an implementation phase, which was not sufficiently described in the original plan. These areas have highlighted where the first development stage has concluded and made clear any other milestones required to fully deliver the outcome.

3. Consultation on Proposal

- 3.1 The Committee considered the proposed Governance Improvement Plan at their meeting 15th July 2021 and review at each meeting.

4. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 4.1 The Governance Improvement Plan will be implemented and monitored during the remainder of the finance year 2021/22.

5. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

- 5.1 There are no financial implications relating to the proposal set out regarding the annual governance review however, non-compliance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations may result in a qualified audit opinion which could lead to a potential withdrawal or withholding of funding.

6. Legal Implications and Advice

- 6.1 There are no legal implications relating to the Governance Improvement Plan.

7. Human Resources Implications and Advice

- 7.1 There are no human resources implications related to this report.

8. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice

- 8.1 There are no equality and diversity implications related to this report.

9. Climate Change Implications and Advice

9.1 There are no climate change implications related to this report.

10. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice

10.1 There are no information and communication technology implications related to this report.

11. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice

11.1 There are no communications or marketing implications related to this report.

List of Appendices Included

A Governance Improvement Plan – Progress Update

Background Papers

Item 15 – Audit and Standards Committee agenda, 15th July 2021 – Draft AGS

<https://moderngov.sheffieldcityregion.org.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=142&MIId=386&Ver=4>