

Audit, Standards and Risk Committee

14 July 2022

Governance Improvement Plan 2022/23

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

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Executive Summary

This paper updates the Committee on the 2022/23 Governance Improvement Plan.

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

Continually improving governance enables the 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

Members are asked to note the activity to progress the governance improvement plan.

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

Audit and Standards Committee

09 June 2022

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 sets out the work being undertaken by the Management Board to drive the Governance Improvement Plan for 2022/23.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The Governance Improvement Plan set out in the Annual Governance Statement, considered by the Committee in June, aligns the actions to the relevant CIPFA principles. This is provided for reference at appendix A.

A number of the actions are related or have interdependencies, as well as links to the outcomes in the 2022-25 Corporate Plan and to mayoral priorities and therefore need co-ordination and cross team collaboration. Management Board have grouped the actions into broader themes and have scheduled a number of sessions in August to evaluate activity to date and to provide steer and direction.

The themes are as follows:

Theme	GIP Coverage
Stakeholders and engagement	This will encompass the actions relating to increasing our stakeholder base as well as understanding our customers and responding to their feedback
Outcomes, impact and data	This will encompass the work underway to ensure there is clarity around the outcomes and impacts we need our programmes and investments to make, and how we monitor these against the Strategic Economic Plan objectives.
Organisational development	This will encompass the work underway to improve the physical environment for the workforce as well as business improvement projects, reviewing corporate policies and procedures and implementing the Management Code.

- 2.2 An update against the action plan is scheduled for the next Committee meeting however, it is proposed that agenda items are scheduled on the workplan in each of these areas to enhance understanding of the work underway.

3. Consultation on Proposal

- 3.1 The Committee considered the proposed 2022/23 Governance Improvement Plan as part of the draft Annual Governance Statement at their meeting 9th June 2022.

4. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

4.1 The Governance Improvement Plan covers the financial year 202/23.

5. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

5.1 There are no financial implications relating to the proposal set out regarding the development and monitoring of a governance improvement plan 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 this report.

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 aligned to CIPFA principles

Background Papers

None