

Audit, Standards and Risk Committee

21 June 2023

Final Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

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| Is the paper exempt from the press and public? | No |
| Reason why exempt: | Not applicable |
| Purpose of this report: | Governance |
| Funding Stream: | Not applicable |
| Is this a Key Decision? | No |
| Has it been included on the Forward Plan? | Not a Key Decision |

Director Approving Submission of the Report

Gareth Sutton, Chief Finance Officer/s73 Officer

Report Author(s):

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Executive Summary

This report presents the final draft of the Annual Governance Statement.

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

Good governance enables the MCA to pursue its ambitions and objectives in the most effective and efficient way, bringing about better outcomes for residents and businesses in South Yorkshire.

Recommendations

Members are asked to note the final version of the Annual Governance Statement and Governance Improvement Plan, amended in line with the recommendations of the Committee in March 23, and approved by the MCA Board on 5th June 2023.

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

Audit, Standards and Risk Committee

22nd March 2023

Mayoral Combined Authority Board

5th June 2023

1. Background

- 1.1 It is a statutory requirement for the Authority to review its systems of governance and internal control at least once each year, and to publish an Annual Governance Statement with its Statement of Accounts. The outputs from the Annual Governance Review process undertaken between January and March have assisted in the preparation of the Annual Governance Statement (Appendix A) which has been prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/SOLACE 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework 2016'.

2. Key Issues

2.1 Annual Governance Statement & Governance Improvement Plan

A draft Annual Governance Statement and Governance Improvement Plan were considered by the Audit, Standards and Risk Committee on 22nd March. The Committee asked that the Statement be amended to include the highest scoring corporate risks the Authority had faced during the year. These have been included at section 6 along with a year-end position.

The MCA Board considered and approved the Annual Governance Statement and Governance Improvement Plan as recommended by the Audit, Standards and Risk Committee, at their meeting 5th June.

3. Timetable and Accountability for Implementation

- 3.1 The Annual Governance Statement will be updated to reflect the final Head of Internal Audit Opinion and then included in the Authority's Statement of Accounts which are due to be published by 30th November 2023.

The timetable for the implementation of the Governance Improvement Plan will be agreed with the Audit, Standards and Risk Committee.

4. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

- 4.1 There are no financial or procurement implications associated with this report.

5. Legal Implications and Advice

- 5.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 requires Combined Authorities to prepare an Annual Governance Statement in order to report publicly on the extent to which they comply with their own code of governance.

6. Human Resources Implications and Advice

- 6.1 There are no human resource implications associated with this report.

7. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice

- 7.1 There are no equality and diversity issues associated with this report.

8. Climate Change Implications and Advice

8.1 There are no climate change implications associated with this report.

9. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice

9.1 There are no information and communication technology implications associated with this report.

10. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice.

10.1 There are no communications or marketing implications associated with this report, however, the Code of Corporate Governance will be published on the Authority's website and the Annual Governance Statement will be included in the Authority's Statement of Accounts which are due to published by 30th November 2023.

List of Appendices Included

A Annual Governance Statement including Governance Improvement Plan 2023/24

Background Papers

The paper considered by the Audit, Standards and Risk Committee on 22nd March along with the minutes of the meeting can be accessed here

<https://governance.southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=142&MId=1601&Ver=4>

Item 135 – Findings of the Annual Governance Review and Draft Annual Governance Statement including Governance Improvement Plan 2023/24

The paper considered by the MCA Board on 5th June can be accessed here

<https://governance.southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=137&MId=1646&Ver=4>

Item 13 – Corporate Governance Update