
AMENDMENT TO ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides Members with details of the amendment made to the Annual Audit Report for 2016/17 as presented to this Committee on 20 June 2017.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The change was requested by the Council's external auditors following their examination of the Annual Governance Statement for 2016/17. It was their view that the opinion provided for by the Chief Audit Executive (CAE) in the Annual Governance Statement and Annual Audit Report in respect of the Council's arrangements for risk management, internal control and governance should be the same (identical in terms of words used).
- 2.2 In order to directly align the CAE's opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of Council arrangements for risk management, internal control and governance as contained in the Annual Governance Statement, with that in the Annual Report, the following amendment has been made to paragraph 4.3 of the annual audit report.

Original wording:

I conclude that my overall audit opinion is one of **adequate assurance**, which means that, whilst there is basically a sound system of internal control, there are some areas of weakness which may put the Council's objectives at risk. It should also be recognised that the Council continues to implement a programme of considerable organisational change through 2017/18 that will directly impact on the internal control environment, notably the ICT migration project.

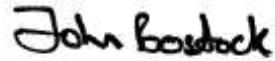
Revised wording:

Based on the work performed during 2016/17 and other sources of assurance I can provide adequate assurance that the Council's risk management, internal control and governance processes in operation during the year to 31 March 2017 generally accord with proper practice and are fundamentally sound although there are opportunities to improve arrangements to enhance the Council's governance framework. It should also be recognised that the Council continues to implement a programme of considerable organisational change through 2017/18 that will directly impact on the internal control environment, notably the ICT migration project.

3 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

That the amendment to the annual audit report be noted.



John Bostock

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Background Papers:-

None.

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