

22. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

The Council Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Governance Manager providing assurance in relation to compliance with the standards in the council's Code of Corporate Governance and related governance matters. Appendix 1 to the report contained the Annual Governance and Risk Statement, Appendix 2 contained the annual compliance statements and appendix 3 contained information relating to the standards in the revised Code of Corporate Governance.

The report recalled that in April 2018 the council adopted a revised Code of Corporate Governance based on a Framework called "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government" produced by CIPFA/SOLACE. It was supplemented by a set of "Guidance Notes for Scottish Authorities".

The new framework included a modified and updated definition and description of governance which set out seven principles in the top layer in the hierarchy for a Code.

It was noted in the report that in June 2017 the remit of the former Audit and Governance Committee was divided, and was replaced by the Audit Committee and Governance & Risk Committee.

The report went on to provide brief details on the following:-

- Best Value Assurance Report
- Governance and Risk Board
- Management Plans
- Policy and Strategy Development Reviews
- Monitoring and Reporting
- Systems and Procedures
- Annual Compliance Statements
- Annual Governance Statement
- Standards in the Code
- Areas of Concern

In conclusion the report advised that on the basis of all the factors and information in the report, the council could be assured that the standards of corporate governance continued to be substantially met.

The report recommended that the Council Executive

1. Note the terms of the annual governance statement approved at

Governance and Risk Committee on 18 June 2018 (appendix 1);

2. Note the information provided in the annual compliance statements by senior officers (appendix 2);
3. Note the information provided in relation to the standards in the revised Code of Corporate Governance (appendix 3) and that the standards continued to be substantially met in 2017/18; and
4. Note that the report would be considered further by the Governance & Risk Committee to identify areas of concern and appropriate actions.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.