

Cheltenham Borough Council

Cabinet - 27th July 2010

Annual governance statement - significant issues action plan

Report of the cabinet member corporate services

1. Executive Summary and recommendation

1.1 The issue

1.1.1 As part of the statement of accounts the council approves the annual governance statement which is signed by the leader and chief executive. The audit committee are charged with governance and oversee the production and monitoring of the annual governance statement and associated action plan which addresses the significant issues. It is appropriate however for the cabinet to have oversight of the action plan and ensure that we are taking appropriate action.

1.2 I therefore recommend that:

1.2.1 Cabinet leads discuss with relevant officers the action plan and ensure that it is progressed, and that corrective action is taken as appropriate.

1.3 Summary of implications (note to author - cross reference to body of report where applicable)

1.3.1 Financial None directly arising from this report

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1.3.2 Legal None directly arising from this report

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1.3.3 Other

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1.4 Implications on corporate and community plan priorities

1.4.1 Good governance underpins delivery of the corporate strategy.

1.5 Statement on Risk

1.5.1 See attached risk register

2. Introduction

2.1 The council has a statutory duty to prepare an annual governance statement. As part of the statement the council approves an action plan which identifies a number of significant issues which will impact on the governance arrangements of the council.

3. Background

3.1 Attached at appendix 2 is the action plan which was approved by council on 28 June. The action plan is monitored by the audit committee but the cabinet as the executive of the council need to ensure that actions are being delivered in a timely way and demonstrate that it takes its governance responsibility seriously.

3.2 I would request that cabinet colleagues, in their 1-2-1s with their respective ADs, discuss progress against the action plan, ensuring that the actions are monitored through service plans and recorded where appropriate on divisional risk registers. It would also be appropriate for cabinet colleagues to discuss during the course of the year any emerging control and governance issues and ensure that these are either addressed in year or recorded as part of the annual assurance process for 2010-11.

Appendices

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|----------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Risk register |
| 2 | Significant issues action plan |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |

Background Papers

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Accountability	Councillor Colin Hay
Scrutiny Function	Economy and business improvement