

**GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE  
29 JANUARY 2013**

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**ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT PREPARATION  
(Director of Corporate Services – Legal)**

**1 PURPOSE OF DECISION**

- 1.1 This report seeks the nomination of a Member to attend the meeting of the Governance Working Group which formulates the Annual Governance Statement ('AGS') and the AGS Action Plan.

**2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 The Committee is invited to nominate a Member to attend the meeting of the Governance Working Group which formulates the Annual Governance Statement and resulting Action Plan, for submission to the Committee.**

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Member input has been valuable in previous years and accordingly the Committee is requested to nominate a Member to assist in this year's preparation of the AGS.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

None.

**5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 5.1 The CIPFA/SOLACE guidance on Governance for Local Authorities which constitutes best practice for the Accounts and Audit Regulations requires the production of an AGS. The review of the Council's governing arrangements in the Annual Governance Statement leads to the formulation of an Action Plan to address any weaknesses identified.
- 5.2 For the past three years a Member of the Committee (Councillor Thompson) has been nominated to attend the meeting of the officer Governance Working Group which prepares the draft AGS and Action Plan. Member input has been found to be very helpful and accordingly the Committee is requested to nominate a Member to assist in this year's preparation of the AGS.

**6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The Borough Solicitor is the author of this report.

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 There are no financial implications directly arising.

Equalities Impact Assessment

6.3 Not applicable

Strategic Risk Management Issues

6.4 None.

Other Officers

6.5 None.

**7 CONSULTATION**

7.1 Principle Groups Consulted

None.

7.2 Method of Consultation

Not applicable.

7.3 Representations received

Not applicable.

Background Papers

None.

Contact for Further Information

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