

**GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
25 MARCH 2015**

**PREPARATION OF ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT
Director of Corporate Services – Legal**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek the nomination of a Member to assist the Governance Working Group in the formulation of the Annual Governance Statement.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the Committee nominate a Member to join the Governance Working Group during the formulation of the Annual Governance Statement for 2013/14.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Previous experience has proved that having Member input into the preparation of the Annual Governance Statement is very valuable.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Not to have any Member join the Governance Working Group but proceeding without having the benefit of a Member's perspective is considered to be undesirable.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations require the preparation of an Annual Governance Statement to review the adequacy of governance arrangements in place during the financial year and to consider whether any adjustments to those arrangements are required.
- 5.2 In recent years a Member (Councillor Thompson) has joined the officer Governance Working Group during its deliberations in preparing the Statement. That Member input is considered to have been very valuable and accordingly it is proposed that the practice be continued in preparing the 2013/14 Statement.

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 required.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

6.4 None.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

7.1 None.

Method of Consultation

7.2 Not applicable.

Representations Received

7.3 Not applicable.

Background Papers

None

Contact for Further Information

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Doc. Ref

AJ/f/reports/Governance & Audit Committee – 25 March 2015