Report to:	AUDIT PANEL
Date:	12 March 2024
Reporting Officer:	Ashley Hughes – Director of Resources
Subject:	ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ACTIONS FOLLOW UP
Report Summary:	To present the Audit Panel with an update to the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan, and in accordance with best practice.
Recommendations:	That progress against the action plan at Appendix 1 is noted.
Corporate Plan:	Demonstrates Corporate Governance.
Policy Implications:	Demonstrates compliance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (as amended).
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)	Sound corporate governance and proper systems of internal control are essential for the long-term financial health and reputation of the Council.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	Local authorities are required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (as amended) to prepare a governance statement in order to report publicly on the extent to which the council is complying with its own code of governance on an annual basis, including the monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of the governance arrangements in the year. This report provides the half yearly report of progress against actions.
Risk Management:	The statement provides assurance that the Council has a sound system of corporate governance in place. It is considered to be an important public expression of how the Council directs and controls its functions and relates to its community.
Background Information:	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Carol McDonnell, Head of Assurance 0161 342 3231

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