

AUDIT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: Cllr Chris Clarence

DATE: 12 September 2017
REPORT OF: Audit Manager
SUBJECT: Annual Governance Statement - Amendment

PART I

RECOMMENDATION

To note the report.

1. PURPOSE

1.1 To seek members approval for minor amendments to the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) which is due to be approved by Council in September.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Local Authorities must publish an AGS. The AGS must be approved by full Council. The Audit Scrutiny Committee considered a draft AGS at their July meeting and recommended this to Council for approval on 25 September. A copy of the draft AGS can be found on the July Audit Scrutiny agenda [here](#).

2.2 Minor changes to this draft are now necessary as set out below.

3. PROPOSED CHANGES

Amendment No. 1 Page 5:

A Peer Challenge review undertaken by the Local Government Association in March 2016 has praised the Council's governance. The peers concluded that Teignbridge has strong political and managerial leadership, there are excellent member-officer relationships, and it is well regarded by its partners. ~~A follow up visit is taking place in 2017.~~

Reason:

A follow up visit is no longer taking place.

Amendment No. 2 Page 5:			
The Local Government Ombudsman has not found the Council at fault for maladministration in for 3 any of the 23 complaints received in 2016-2017. None caused injustice.			
Reason:			
The Ombudsman's annual review letter was received on 27 July 2017 which provided a complete overview of complaints and their outcomes.			
Amendment No. 3 Page 6:			
<table border="1"> <tr> <td> <u>2.Review of Local Code of Governance</u> The Council's Local Code of Governance has not yet been updated to adopt the new principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE framework. </td> <td> Revised Code will be presented to <u>Council the December 2017 Audit Scrutiny Committee</u> for approval <u>and recommended adoption by Council in September 2017.</u> </td> </tr> </table>		<u>2.Review of Local Code of Governance</u> The Council's Local Code of Governance has not yet been updated to adopt the new principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE framework.	Revised Code will be presented to <u>Council the December 2017 Audit Scrutiny Committee</u> for approval <u>and recommended adoption by Council in September 2017.</u>
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Reason:			
The original timetable of September 2017 was too ambitious.			

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 Members are asked to accept the proposed changes for incorporation into the draft AGS that is due to be approved by Council on 25 September 2017.

Sue Heath – Audit Manager

Wards affected	N/A
Contact for any more information	Sue Heath – Audit Manager – 01626 215258
Background Papers (For Part I reports only)	July Audit Scrutiny Agenda – Item 11 – AGS Ombudsman Annual Review Letter
In Forward Plan	N
In Audit Scrutiny Work Programme	N