

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO AND DECISION OF AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ON 19 NOVEMBER 2020

PART A : REPORT

SUBJECT: Annual Governance Statement 2019/20

REPORT AUTHOR: Stephen Pearse, Internal Audit Manager

DATE: September 2020

EXTN: 37561

PORTFOLIO AREA: Corporate Support

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

To present the final Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20 for the Committee's approval

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Members of the Audit & Governance Committee are requested to approve the Council's Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20

1. BACKGROUND:

1.1 BACKGROUND

The Council is required by the Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015 to produce and approve an Annual Governance Statement, to accompany the annual accounting statements.

The Committee noted the draft Annual Governance Statement at its meeting of 30 July 2020 but were advised that the external audit of the Council's Accounts for 2019/20 had not yet been completed and that these would be presented at future meeting of the Committee. (It had been intended to hold a special meeting in September, but as the audit of the accounts had still not been completed the Accounts will now be presented at the scheduled meeting in November).

Having noted the draft, the Committee requested that it be included for final approval at the meeting considering the audited annual accounts – there is only one minor change from the draft recognising the relaxation of the deadline for presentation of the audited Accounts to 30th November in 2020 in light of the Covid-19 crisis.

2. PROPOSAL(S):

It is proposed that the Committee approves the Council's Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20

3. OPTIONS:		
To approve the Council's Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20, or not		
4. CONSULTATION:		
In preparing the AGS, input was requested from the management of various service areas and the document was considered and agreed by the Council's Governance & Risk Group. The draft version has also been reviewed by the Council's external auditors		
Has consultation been undertaken with:	YES	NO
Relevant Town/Parish Council		✓
Relevant District Ward Councillors		✓
Other groups/persons (please specify)		✓
5. ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail at 6 below)	YES	NO
Financial		✓
Legal		✓
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment		✓
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act		✓
Sustainability		✓
Asset Management/Property/Land		✓
Technology		✓
Other (please explain)		✓
6. IMPLICATIONS:		

7. REASON FOR THE DECISION:
The Committee approves the Council's Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:
N/A