

Annual Governance Statement Action Plan 2016/17

No.	Issue	Action	Outcome	Lead Officer	Completion Date
1.	<p>ERP Gold Implementation</p> <p>The Council is currently changing its Enterprise Resource Planning (SAP) system, this is our core financial and HR system, so is critical to a number of aspects of control and governance.</p> <p>We are currently developing the replacement system which is due to be implemented in Milton Keynes on 1st October 2017.</p>	<p>Project governance includes a Programme Board, with senior stakeholder representation. The Corporate Director of Resources sits on this Programme Board on behalf of MKC. There are work stream leads for each of the key elements of the programme who engage with colleagues through a network of working groups to inform the design of the system.</p> <p>Internal audit are also reviewing controls and governance, and providing advice as the system is developed. The project is being managed through a Prince2 project management approach. The system is currently undergoing user acceptance testing and plans for rollout and training are in place to ensure end users are able to use the new systems once they are available.</p>	Implementation of fit-for-purpose solution	Corporate Director-Resources	Oct 17 Update 28-11-17 The implementation has been delayed and is now expected in April 2018 as reported to the Committee in Sept.
2.	<p>Financial Management</p> <p>In 2016/17 the Council faced a number of specific financial challenges including; a delay to the delivery of the Residual Waste Treatment Facility; a deficit from an academy conversion; increases in demand for children's social care services; and temporary accommodation and government funding</p>	<p>The Council budgeted to deliver £24.3m of savings in 2016/17, £18.2m having been implemented, £4.4m delayed until 2017/18 and £0.5m having been deferred as part of the budget. Overall £1.2m (4.9%) is undeliverable, due to changes in circumstances.</p> <p>Our budget is robust and subject to scrutiny both from officers and Councillors, and incorporates clear proposals for change; risk assessments and action plans.</p>	Ongoing robust financial management and control	Corporate Director-Resources	Ongoing Update 28-11-17 No change with budget monitoring processes debated at Septs meeting.

	<p>reductions to public health grant. These created an overspend of £3.0m.</p> <p>While our financial management remains strong, these issues illustrate the need to maintain good governance and to maintain sufficient capacity in reserves to manage unexpected issues during the year.</p>	<p>Effective financial planning and control remain essential to the management and delivery of services by the Council. Governance processes are in place, overseen by the Corporate Director of Resources. Our financial governance framework includes clear scheme of delegation; accountability letters for all budget managers; robust budget forecasting and monitoring; and regular reporting.</p>			
<p>3.</p>	<p>LGSS Partnership</p> <p>With the provision of significant Council services by LGSS, embedded governance to enable effective operational workings is key.</p>	<p>The formal governance arrangements for the LGSS Partnership are through the Joint Committee. This includes three councillors from MKC. The Joint Committee has been operating during the last year to ensure adequate oversight and decision making. Councillors had an introductory briefing to enable them to participate fully in Joint Committee meetings.</p> <p>There is also the LGSS Joint Overview & Scrutiny Working Group to review the operations of LGSS which met in October 2016.</p> <p>There is also a monthly LGSS Management Board which supports the role of the Joint Committee and influences the operational delivery of services. The Corporate Director of Resources represents MKC as this forum, as the accountable offer for the services within the shared service. Performance and Service Quality is a standing agenda item, with its content developing.</p>	<p>Formalise and effective governance arrangements embedded.</p>	<p>CLT / Audit Committee</p>	<p>Ongoing Update 28-11-17 No change.</p>

4.	<p>Ofsted Inspection Findings</p> <p>'Requires Improvement' outcome of our Ofsted inspection of child protection and services for looked after children.</p> <p>In a local authority that requires improvement, this means there are no widespread or serious failure that create or leave children being harmed or at risk of harm. The welfare of looked after children is safeguarded and promoted. However, the authority is not yet delivering good protection, help and care for children, young people and families.</p>	Complete action plan to address recommendations.	Action to address areas of weakness	Service Director – Children and Families	<p>December 2017</p> <p>Update</p> <p>28-11-17</p> <p>Progress in completing the action plan is on-going.</p>
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