

**SUBJECT: COMBINED ASSURANCE REPORT**

**DIRECTORATE: AUDIT MANAGER**

**REPORT AUTHOR: AUDIT MANAGER**

## **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To present to Members the Combines Assurance Status Report for 2020/21, for comment.

## **2. Combined Assurance**

- 2.1 The report provides an overview of assurance across the Council. It combines assurance opinions provided by management, corporate assurance systems (such as performance), other external/third party assurance and Internal Audit. The Combined Assurance Report is produced annually, and the current report covers the period 2020/21.
- 2.2 By grouping different sources of assurance in a single model we provide the basis for Senior Management and the Audit Committee to gain a better understanding of the organisation's assurance status.
- 2.3. The report details the methodology that was used and provides assurance across critical services, projects and risks. The report includes details of any amber or red assurances.
- 2.4. The report also feeds into the assurances considered for the Annual Governance Statement, informs the Internal Audit Plan and Annual Internal audit report.
- 2.5 The report is attached at Appendix A.
- 2.6 Despite the impact of Covid-19 on the Council and the changes in services, systems, processes etc that it has had to make the overall levels of assurance are broadly consistent with previous years with a combined assurance of 63% services designated green, 36% amber and 1% red. Further detail of the assurance levels and the actions being taken to address those amber and red assurance areas is included in the attached report.

## **3. Organisational Impacts**

- 3.1 There are no direct financial impacts
- 3.2 There are no direct legal impacts

**4. Recommendation**

4.1 The Audit Committee note and comment upon the Combined Assurance report.

**Is this a key decision?** No

**Do the exempt information categories apply?** No

**Does Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (call-in and urgency) apply?** No

**How many appendices does the report contain?** One

**List of Background Papers:** None

**Lead Officer:** John Scott, Audit Manager  
Telephone (01522) 873258