

SUBJECT:	ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT MONITORING
REPORT BY:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND TOWN CLERK
LEAD OFFICER:	GRAHAM ROSE, SENIOR STRATEGIC POLICY OFFICER

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present to Audit Committee a progress update on the one area identified as a 'significant governance issue' as set out in the 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement (AGS).

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report and supporting appendix provides an update on the progress made with the one significant internal control issue identified in the 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement presented to CMT and Audit Committee in June 2022. This particular issue was monitored throughout 2021/22 and carried forward for monitoring during 2022/23. There were no new issues identified within the 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement.

3. Background

- 3.1 On an annual basis the Annual Governance Statement reviews how City of Lincoln Council complied with our Code of Corporate Governance during the previous year, and specifically focuses on identifying any significant governance issues for monitoring over the year ahead.
- 3.2 Update reports on the progress made with reducing the risks of those issues identified are provided to CMT and Audit Committee on a quarterly basis.

4. Summary of findings

4.1 Monitoring of 2021/22 AGS issues

There was one significant governance issue monitored during 2021/22, which remained an issue for monitoring during 2022/23.

4.2 AGS issue identified for monitoring in 2022/23 -

Disaster Recovery Plan in place for IT arrangements and alignment with current Business Continuity plans:

A new IT Disaster Recovery plan needs to be in place, which will consider not just the 'where' the council has recovery plans based, but also what the future expectations from our IT resources will be; how our staff will work, how our services will work, what resources are available and what implications does this have on our

ability to ensure the Disaster Recovery plans for IT can match the Business Continuity plans for key services.

This issue falls into two separate actions – the first relating to the completion of the updated IT Disaster Recovery Plan, and the second being the review of the Business Continuity plans in light of the new recovery plan.

An update on the progress with this one significant issue identified within the 2021/22 AGS is provided within Appendix A, which also details the progress made on this issue throughout 2021 and 2022.

5. Strategic Priorities

- 5.1 This report does not focus specifically on any of the five Vision 2025 priorities but does contribute significantly towards One Council, which underpins these aspirations.

6. Organisational Impacts

6.1 Finance (including whole life costs where applicable)

There are no direct financial implications arising as a result of this report.

6.2 Legal Implications including Procurement Rules

There are no direct legal implications arising as a result of this report

6.3 Equality, Diversity & Human Rights

The Public Sector Equality Duty means that the Council must consider all individuals when carrying out their day-to-day work, in shaping policy, delivering services and in relation to their own employees. It requires that public bodies have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities

There are no direct Equality and Diversity implications arising as a result of this report.

7. Risk Implications

- 7.1 (i) Options Explored - n/a
- 7.2 (ii) Key risks associated with the preferred approach - n/a

8. Recommendation

- 8.1 Audit Committee is asked to note the progress made on the one issue identified within the AGS 2021/22.

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

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