

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Accounts and Audit Committee
Date: 22nd July 2021
Report for: Decision
Report of: Corporate Director of Governance and Community Strategy

Report Title

Draft Annual Governance Statement – 2020/21

Summary

This reports sets out the Draft 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement (AGS). The preparation and publication of an Annual Governance Statement is necessary to meet the statutory requirement set out in the Accounts and Audit Regulations. The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2021 came into force on 31 March 2021. These regulations amend the publication dates of the draft accounts to no later than 31 July 2021, as public inspection must commence no later than 1 August 2021 and the audited accounts to be published no later than 30 September 2021 for local authorities

The content of the draft AGS has been reviewed and agreed by CLT. This has included agreeing significant governance issues detailed in the AGS. The draft AGS will also be shared with External Audit to accompany the 2020/21 draft accounts.

The AGS has been produced taking into account both the framework and guidance on the AGS issued by CIPFA/SOLACE in April 2016.

The final version of the AGS will take into account any further feedback from the Accounts and Audit Committee and will accompany the Council's Accounts. The final version will be signed off by the Leader and Chief Executive.

Recommendation

The Accounts and Audit Committee considers the content of the draft Annual Governance Statement.

The Accounts and Audit Committee notes that the final version of the Annual Governance Statement must be approved by 30 September 2021 in accordance with The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2021. The final version will be presented for approval by the Committee, prior to sign off by the Chief Executive and Leader.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

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Background Papers: None