

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL**COMMITTEE REPORT****CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE****29th May 2014****Action Plan: Governance Review****Paul Slocombe – Director of Resources****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To update Members on the proposed Action plan in relation to the review undertaken by our external Auditor (Deloitte)

BACKGROUND

2. The Council's Governance arrangements are based on the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives' (SOLACE) and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) advice. Whilst it is not a prescriptive code it is used as a measure of "Good Governance" and covers:-
 - the vision, objectives and outcomes for citizens and service users
 - roles and responsibilities for executive, non-executive, scrutiny and officers'
 - decision making process
 - scheme of delegation
 - Identifying and managing risks
 - Role of Head of Paid Service and Monitoring Officer
 - Financial management arrangements
 - Role of the Chief Finance Officer
 - Role of Audit (Internal and External)
 - Compliance with laws, regulations, policies and procedures.
3. Deloitte were appointed to review our Governance arrangements in place during 2013/2014. This included:-
 - Committee and officer group structures
 - Backward looking review on selected decisions
 - Senior Management Structure
 - Principles of the proposed Middlesbrough Manager model
 - Change programme Board role
 - Role of Chief Finance officer and Head of Internal Audit
4. Deloitte submitted a report to the Audit and Governance Committee on the 25th March 2014. This outlined a series of recommendations to strengthen the Council's Governance arrangements.

5. The Committee requested an Action Plan in response to the report's recommendations be submitted to this meeting of the Committee.
6. Attached to this report is the proposed Action Plan for consideration.

FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND WARD IMPLICATIONS

7. There are no financial implications or specific ward implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

8. Members are requested to consider the Action Plan attached to the report

REASONS

9. The Council is required to have adequate Governance arrangements in place.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Deloitte Governance Review

AUTHOR

Paul Slocombe – Director of Resources
Telephone: 01642 729032

Address: PO Box 99A, Town Hall, Middlesbrough. TS1 2QQ
Website: <http://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk>