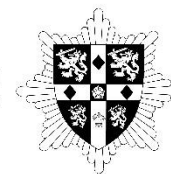


Safest People, Safest Places

County Durham and Darlington
Fire and Rescue Authority



AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

25 NOVEMBER 2021

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE ACTION PLAN UPDATE

REPORT OF DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Purpose of Report

1. To provide an update of the progress being made in relation to the actions arising from the development of the Authority's corporate governance arrangements.

Background

2. The Authority developed an action plan to progress the high priority actions identified during the production of the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and reported as part of the final accounts for 2020/21.
3. The Authority continues to develop its governance arrangements and has procedures in place for monitoring actions arising from the 2020/21 final accounts. The effectiveness of internal audit has also been reviewed and a Code of Corporate Governance is in place and approved in line with CIPFA/SOLACE guidance.

Corporate Governance Action Plan

3. The Service Leadership Team (SLT) has responsibility for progressing key governance improvements that have been identified. These issues are reviewed quarterly and progress is monitored to ensure that appropriate actions are being taken to mitigate any risks to effective governance.
4. Regular meetings are held with Internal Audit to discuss progress made in relation to the Corporate Governance Action Plan.
5. The 2021/22 Corporate Governance Action Plan is attached at Appendix A. The action plan has been updated to reflect the position in relation to the action points at 30 September 2021.

Recommendation

6. Members are requested to **note and comment** on the contents of the report and the on-going work in relation to the corporate governance arrangements of the Authority.