

Appendices:

1. Governance Report
2. Corporate risk register
3. Internal control reviews
4. Position statement on vacant posts



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Report Title	Governance Report Update
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Audit Committee Meeting Date: 26th November 2018

Policy Document: Governance Report

Services: Chief Finance Officer

Accountable Cabinet Member: Jonathan Nunn - Leader

1. Purpose

1.1.1 This report introduces the Governance Report which will be presented quarterly to the Audit Committee.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee review, comment and request additional information be included or, if not required, items are omitted for future quarterly Governance Reports.

2.2 That the Committee agree that the Governance report will be presented quarterly with appendices where relevant.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

Previously, the Audit Committee was presented with the Governance Action plan that was introduced in 2016. This has now, in the main, been completed and it has been identified that a quarterly governance statement is required to give assurance of controls and process improvements within NBC.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

- 4.1.1 There are no policy changes as a result of this report.
- 4.1.2 There may be various impacts and changes to current policies. The governance report will assure Audit Committee that policies and procedures are being strengthened to contribute to building a strong control environment at the Council.
- 4.1.3 Compliance with policies will be monitored through the Internal Control reviews and reported upon through the governance structure and to the Audit Committee starting in the new financial year.

4.2 Resources and Risk

- 4.2.1 The Governance team are fully resourced to cover the areas reported within the Governance report, temporary staff have been engaged to assist with GDPR. Financial implications will be reported through the budget process.

4.3 Legal

- 4.3.1 None to report at present.

4.4 Equality

- 4.4.1 Whilst there are no specific equality implications at this stage, various policies will be reviewed through the improvements in procedures throughout NBC. All reviews will be supported by equality and community impact assessments.

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

- 4.5.1 Internal consultation has taken place with Corporate Management Board and other senior officers where required.

4.6 Other Implications

- 4.6.1 None specifically

5. Background Papers

- 5.1 None at present

Joanne Bonham, Governance & Risk Manager