

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE

26 June 2018

Report of the Monitoring Officer

1. Purpose of the Report

To receive a report of the Monitoring Officer since her appointment in May 2018, addressing the Council's governance and assurance frameworks.

2. Information and Analysis

The Council's newly appointed Director of Legal Service and Monitoring Officer commenced in post on 21st May 2018. Since her appointment, the Monitoring Officer has, as part of her wider role:

- Met with the Council's Head of Paid Service and s151 Officer;
- Met with the Chief Audit Executive and the Council's External Auditor, KPMG;
- Been consulted on and reviewed the Council's current Code of Corporate Governance;
- Had the opportunity to consider the Council's draft Annual Governance Statement for 2017/2018;
- Undertaken an initial review of the Council's constitution and in doing so has attended a number of constitutionally prescribed meetings so as to gain an initial insight as to the effectiveness of the Council's governance and assurance frameworks.

The Council is working towards becoming an Enterprising Council and with this in mind, the Monitoring Officer will, working on partnership with the s151 Officer and with the support of the Head of Paid Service, be undertaking a comprehensive review of the aforementioned Frameworks so as to ensure the Council can continue to safely deliver its aims and aspirations. This piece of work has commenced at the formal request of the Standards Committee on 4th July 2018, whose role is to act as the custodian of the Constitution ensuring it remains a robust, fit for purpose document. The review will also incorporate a review of the ethical governance framework.

Based on her work to date, the Monitoring Officer is of the opinion that effective governance and assurance frameworks are currently in place.

3. Considerations

In the preparation of this report, consideration has been given to the following: legal, financial, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport implications.

4. Background Papers

- Constitution
- Code of Corporate Governance
- Draft Annual Governance Statement 2017/2017

5. Officer Recommendation

The Audit Committee notes that the Standards Committee has approved a review of the Council's Constitution and ethical governance framework which is due to conclude during 2018/2019.

That the Monitoring Officer will provide an annual report to the Audit Committee to support the Council's Annual Governance Statement commencing in 2018/2019.

Janie Berry
Monitoring Officer