

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO:	Governance and Audit Committee
DATE:	26th of March 2025
LOCATION:	Remotely via Video Conference
TITLE:	Annual Governance Statement 2024-25
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	To present the Annual Governance Statement for 2024-2025 and the governance framework review 2024-25

Background

The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 requires local authorities to conduct at least annually a review of the effectiveness of their governance framework including their systems of internal control. This review must be documented in an Annual Governance Statement and published as part of the Council's Annual Accounts. The Audit Committee is responsible for monitoring the governance arrangements on behalf of the Council.

The Statement must be prepared in accordance with proper practices, including those set out in the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy ('CIPFA') and The Society of Local Authority Chief Executives ('SOLACE') '*Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework*' (2016). The Framework, published in April 2016, is based on the CIPFA/International Federation of Accountants ('IFAC') '*International Framework: Good Governance in the Public Sector*'.

The CIPFA/SOLACE '*Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework*' (2016) sets out a framework of 7 key principles that will enable organisations, public sector partnerships and combined authorities to achieve their outcomes while working in the public interest. The principles are further supported by core-principles of behaviour that demonstrate what good governance should look like in practice. These principles are the basis for the Council's Governance Framework Document and Governance Framework Review.

Current Position

The Draft Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 contained an Action Plan for the AGS 24/25 (**Appendix 1**) set out in Part 7:

- This has been prepared in accordance with the framework

Proposal

- Progress against the Action Plan within the Annual Governance Statement for 2024-25 (**Appendix 1**) will be monitored.
- Actions to date have been updated.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Committee is requested to:

- i. Note the contents of this report;
- ii. Note the Draft Annual Governance Statement 2024-25 including the Action Plan - Part 7 (**Appendix 1**)
- iii. Make such recommendations as necessary

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S): To progress the preparation/completion and publication of the Annual Governance Statement 2024-25.

Appendices: **Appendix 1:** Draft Annual Governance Statement 2024-25

Head of Service: Elin Prysor, Corporate Lead Officer – Legal & Governance Services / Monitoring Officer

Reporting Officer: Katy Sinnett-Jones – Governance Officer

Date: 24/02/2025