

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE - 26 NOVEMBER 2014

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND SUPPORT SERVICES

UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF 2014/2015 ANNUAL  
GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ACTION PLAN

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

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**Purpose/Summary of Report**

- The 2013/14 Annual Governance Statement includes eleven measures to enhance East Herts Council's internal control framework during 2014/15. The Audit Committee is requested to consider the content of **Essential Reference Paper 'B'** that provides details of proposed actions that need to take place prior to confirmation being given that adequate and effective controls are fully in place.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**That:**

<b>(A)</b>	<b>the Committee reviews the progress made against implementing the action plan contained in the 2013/14 Annual Governance Statement and advises of any concerns.</b>
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1.0 Background

1.1 The Annual Governance Statement Action Plan has identified key responsible officers and timescales and is monitored through reports to this Committee. Actions needed to address issues have been identified and are monitored on a R(ed), A(mber) and G(reen) basis.

2.0 Report

2.1 For the purposes of the Annual Governance Statement, internal

control is being interpreted in its broadest sense covering both financial and managerial controls that ensure that the implementation of East Herts Council's vision and priorities is being managed effectively.

2.2 Position statements are reflected in **Essential Reference Paper 'B'** following consultation with key responsible officers. The position statement contains a traffic light system whereby:

- "Green" indicates that the planned action has been achieved,
- "Amber" indicates that satisfactory progress is being made towards achieving the planned action, and
- "Red" is where a planned action has not been achieved or that progress is unsatisfactory.

2.3 The Annual Governance Statement Action Plan was approved by the Audit Committee on 24 September 2014. This is therefore the first position statement. Current positions have been reflected but there have been insufficient movements to change the RAG status of any actions. The updated positions were also considered by Corporate Management Team on 28 October 2014.

### 3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within Essential Reference Paper 'A'.

### Background Papers

Annual Governance Statement 2013/ 2014 – Audit Committee 24 September 2014.

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