

ASSURANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2011 - 2014

1. SUMMARY

The Local Area Network of external scrutiny bodies has recently completed its annual Shared Risk Assessment review of the Council and updated the Assurance and Improvement Plan (AIP) accordingly. The Plan outlines the current level of risk within the Council and sets out proposed external scrutiny for a rolling 3 year period. The Local Area Network is positive about the Council's progress and notes both the significant improvements made and the challenges that need to be addressed.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The contents of this report are noted.

3. DETAILS

3.1 The overall message from the report is that the Council continues to be improving, with a significant reduction in the level of risk faced. The report concludes that the Council should build on the positive improvements that have taken place, ensure that areas remaining as either a risk or areas of uncertainty are addressed, and that the Council continues to provide best value services to all of its customers leading to improved outcomes for its communities.

3.2 The Chief Executive has written a covering report for the AIP which was presented to the Executive on 2 June 2011. This is attached along with the AIP report.

4. CONCLUSIONS

This report is submitted for consideration.

5. IMPLICATIONS

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| 5.1 | Policy: | None |
| 5.2 | Financial: | None |
| 5.3 | Personnel: | None |
| 5.4 | Legal: | None |
| 5.5 | Equal Opportunities: | None |