

**Assurance Statements**

**SUMMARY**

The attached Assurance Statements from the Authority's Chief Officers and Senior Managers form part of the overall governance framework and support the approval of the annual Statement of Accounts.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The Committee is asked to:-

- 1) Note the Assurance Statements in Appendix 1

**1. Introduction**

Assurance statements are a self-assessment tool for senior managers to annually review and demonstrate ownership for the quality of governance arrangements around service areas for which they are responsible.

They form an integral part of the Authority's Code of Corporate Governance to support the Board's approval of the Annual Governance Statement contained in the Annual Statement of Accounts.

**2. Assurance Statements**

The two Senior Managers responsible for financial management and operations have produced self-assessment statements for their area of activities. These have been subject to review by the Managing Director and subsequently reported to and considered by Chief Officers.

An overarching Chief Officers Statement affirms the Senior Managers' assessments and affirms the effectiveness of the overall control environment.

**3. Financial Implications** – Provides assurance about the financial position and performance reported in the Statement of Accounts.

**4. Legal Implications** – External audit of financial statements is a legal requirement.

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