

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO COUNCIL

2 MAY 2012

**REPORT OF CORPORATE
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER – 2011/12

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to secure Council's approval to the Monitoring Officer's Annual Report for 2011/12.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Monitoring Officer's Annual Report for 2011/12 be approved.

DETAIL

1. Reports on performance are a key part of the Council's monitoring, reporting and planning procedures.
2. Attached at **Appendix 1** is the Monitoring Officer's Annual Report for 2011/12
3. As with the Standards Committee's Annual Report, the Monitoring Officer's Report outlines the Monitoring Officer's main Statutory responsibilities, summarises how they have been discharged during the year and draws attention to some of the main issues that will require attention in the year ahead.
4. Council is asked to consider and approve the Report.
5. Consultation on the Report has previously taken place with Group Leaders and the relevant Cabinet Member; the Head of Legal Services as Deputy Monitoring Officer; the Head of Democratic Services; the Corporate Governance Group; the Corporate Management Team; Audit Committee members and the Standards Committee. Once agreed the Report will be placed on the intranet and the internet for the attention of all Members/Officers.
6. Cabinet considered the Report at its meeting on 19 April 2012 and recommended it to Council for approval. A copy of the report to Cabinet is accessible at (<http://www.egenda.stockton.gov.uk/aksstockton/users/public/admin/kab14.pl?operation=SUBMIT&meet=94&cmte=CAB&grpId=public&arc=71>) and the relevant Cabinet minute is attached at **Appendix 2** to this item.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial

7. None specified as a result of this item.

Legal

8. Similarly, none arising directly from this item.

RISK ASSESSMENT

9. Matters identified in the Annual Report are assessed separately. This item is a low risk category.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

10. Effective corporate and ethical governance is critical to an authority's performance and to demonstrating continuous improvement. Probity and high standards are an inherent part of corporate/ethical governance, Law and Democracy's Service Plan and the Council Plan. The Annual Report is concerned with such governance in all of its aspects.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

11. The Annual Report has not been subject to an assessment. No changes to policies or services are proposed. The Report reflects what has occurred during the past year.

CONSULTATION

12. The Annual Report has been produced in consultation with those Members and Officers specified in paragraph 5 of this item.

Director of Law & Democracy

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<u>Background Papers:</u>	The Annual Report attached
<u>Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:</u>	Not Ward specific
<u>Property Implications:</u>	None