

REPORT OF THE LEADER

BIRMINGHAM INDEPENDENT IMPROVEMENT PANEL

A. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The attached stocktake report (Appendix 1) provides the final formal assessment of the Council's improvement journey prior to the Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel (BIIP) stepping down at the end of March 2019. It charts the progress made against the previous stocktake report, which was considered by Cabinet in June 2018.
- 1.2 It is accompanied by the final in-year update to the Corporate Governance Improvement Plan 2018-19 (Appendix 2); a narrative regarding service transformation and improvement (Appendix 3); and a summary of the high level corporate governance improvement priorities for 2019/20 together with an outline of the scrutiny and peer-challenge framework for the future (appendix 4). These are the documents that are intended for consideration by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government.
- 1.3 Key areas of progress since June 2018 include: improved financial planning, control and performance management; improved education, adults and children's social care regulatory assessments; a robust four year Financial Plan underpinned by a programme management office; and stronger governance and leadership arrangements with the introduction of four year elections with more transparent and timely decision-making.
- 1.4 The report is a candid assessment of where progress has been made and where there is still work to be done. These areas are outlined as 'critical issues and risks' with priorities then captured in the improvement priorities for 2019/20.
- 1.5 The final analysis and independent set of reflections from the Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel (BIIP) are to follow.

MOTION

That Council notes the final formal assessment of the Council's improvement journey prior to the Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel (BIIP) stepping down at the end of March 2019 and notes the City Council's priorities for improvement 2019/20+.