

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE ASSESSMENT

### IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLAN 2025/26 -PROGRESS REPORT

	<b>On Track and to timetable</b>
	<b>Work still to do but likely to be completed by the end of this financial year</b>
	<b>Unlikely to be completed by the end of this financial year</b>

Item Ref:	Area of Improvement:	Lead Officer:	Target Completion Date:	Update June 2026
CG1	MRWA CEX to lead in conjunction with the CEX Wirral BC, on the LCR Strategic Waste Management Partnership to agree a new Zero Waste 2040 Strategy for the LCR	Lesley Worswick	Sept 2025	Completed, all District have now ratified the ZWS for the LCR. MRWA ZWS strategy also approved by Members
CG2	Identify strategic direction of the Authority's budget with Members early in year	Chris Kelsall	Nov 2025	updated Financial Monitoring reports presented throughout the year. Districts informed of likely levy increase in November 2026
CG3	To ensure new ICT solutions are effective in practice.	Paula Pocock	Jul 2025	Ongoing – Pen testing to be completed once legacy apps have been removed, planned for 2026.
CG4	To complete Inter Authority Agreements with all Councils to formalise arrangements for future services provision beyond expiry of the WMRC with Veolia	Lesley Worswick	March 2026	Ongoing, likely to extend to the latter part of 2026/27

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CG5	Implement the Authority's approach to the planning of future waste management services, in preparation for the procurement of the replacement services currently delivered under the existing Waste Management & Recycling Contract.	Lesley Worswick	March 2026	Ongoing – procurement project is well underway and OBC approved.
CG6	To develop a programme of review for Authority Policies and Procedures for Member approval	Paula Pocock	June 2025	First Suite of Policies approved by Authority – next suite to be taken to June 26 Meeting
CG7	To co-ordinate with SLT and Internal Audit to agree the Annual Internal Audit Plan	Chris Kelsall	March 2026	Plan for 2025/26 approved at Authority Meeting of 27 June. Progress updates to be provided to Audit Committee throughout the year.  Plan for 2026/27 approved by Audit Committee in February 2026.
CG8	Review Performance Management Framework	Paula Pocock	March 2026	Full review undertaken and reported to the Authority in April
CG9	Review Governance arrangements to ensure they remain effective in practice.	Chris Kelsall	Sept 2025	External review to be completed during the year, associated constitution updates to be presented for approval in June 2026.
CG10	Substantive review of the Authority's accounting policies to improve financial robustness and submit to Audit Committee for approval	Chris Kelsall	Stage 1 – May 2025  Stage 2 Nov 2025	Completed and incorporated into statutory accounts conclude in February 2026.

## 5 – APPENDIX 3

Item Ref:	Area of Improvement:	Lead Officer:	Target Completion Date:	Update June 2026
CG11	To respond to the recommendations arising from the external auditors' review of the Authority's accounts and value for money.	Chris Kelsall	February 2026	Response issued and all statutory recommendations removed
CG12	To review procurement arrangements including: impact of the new financial & procurement system, compliance with new legislation, reallocation of procurement responsibilities	Chris Kelsall	June 2025	<p>The review of the procurement documentation undertaken with the procurement consultant (Absolute Procure) looked at those areas and amended the documentation to meet the current legislative requirements.</p> <p>The Environment &amp; Planning officer's role has been extended to include responsibility for procurement. This change in role and JD, supported by a procurement consultant, has allowed for a dedicated procurement resource within the Authority able to offer advice and guidance on procurement activities as required, with ultimate responsibility with the Director of Finance.</p>

