

## Statement of Assurance 2017/18 – Progress on Action Plan

The table below highlights progress to date on the actions identified in the Statement of Assurance 2017-18

Key Improvement Area	Lead Officer	Action Status	Progress Status
Continue to develop the arrangements and relationships for the delivery of support services by the Joint Corporate Teams.	Senior Responsible Officer BLC	Ongoing	<p><b>January 2019:</b> The joint teams are at different levels of operational maturity, largely depending upon how long ago they were created and whether there have been barriers to their integration. There are many positive signs that the joint teams are performing as expected, but there is still a way to go on integration and in developing suitable performance monitoring arrangements.</p>
Continue to embed the Partnership Governance Model and relaunch the revised policy.	Head of Prevention	Nearly Complete	<p><b>January 2019:</b> The revised partnership policy has been reviewed and amended as necessary, and has been published and is available from the CorpDocs site. Communications in relation to the revised Policy appeared in the Green.</p> <p>The Cheshire Planning System (CPS) has been customised for managing all partnerships.</p> <p>The only outstanding item is awareness training for CFRS staff; this will be programmed and should be completed April 2019.</p>
Continue to develop and streamline the budget preparation and management processes.	Treasurer	Ongoing	<p><b>January 2019:</b> The Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive led a review which considered spending compared to budget and the level/purpose of earmarked reserves. This resulted in the identification of sufficient savings to balance the budget and to finance other priorities.</p> <p>Consideration will be given in 2019/20 to approaches that will further improve the alignment of resources with priorities.</p> <p>During 2018/19, the quarterly budget monitoring reports to the Members have provided details of the proposed movements on reserves and secured Member approval. The 2019/20 Budget Report also provided greater clarity on the level and purpose of proposed contributions to/from reserves.</p>