

REPORT TO AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 11 March 2015

Report of: Assistant Director Finance

Title: CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE – 2015/16

Is this a Key Decision?

No

* One that affects finances over £1m or significantly affects two or more wards. If this is a key decision then the item must be on the appropriate forward plan of key decisions.

Is this an Executive or Council Function?

Council

1. What is the report about?

1.1 The report sets out the proposed updated Code of Corporate Governance.

2. Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

2.1 Audit and Governance Committee supports and Council approves the updated Code of Corporate Governance for 2015/16;

3. Reasons for the recommendation:

3.1 The Council is required to prepare and publish an Annual Governance Statement by Regulation 4 of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011. It reports on the Council's performance against the Code of Corporate Governance. As the Code is out of date, it is necessary to update the Code to ensure that the Annual Governance Statement is accurate and meaningful.

4. What are the resource implications including non financial resources.

4.1 There are no resource implications contained within the report.

5. Section 151 Officer comments:

5.1 The production of the Code of Corporate Governance is considered best practice. However the requirement to produce An Annual Governance Statement, which reports on the Council's performance with reference to the Code is a statutory requirement.

6. What are the legal aspects?

- 6.1 The Annual Governance Statement, which reports on performance against the Code of Corporate Governance complies with Regulation 4 of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011

7. Monitoring Officer's comments:

- 7.1 The report raises no issues for the Monitoring Officer.

8. Report details:

- 8.1 The Code of Corporate Governance is required to be updated annually. The updated Code is attached at Appendix A.
- 8.2 Other than minor updating, there are no significant changes to the Code.

9. How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan?

- 9.1 This is a statutory requirement and does not contribute directly to the Council's Corporate Plan.

10. What risks are there and how can they be reduced?

- 10.1 There are no direct risks associated with this report

11. What is the impact of the decision on equality and diversity; health and wellbeing; safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults, community safety and the environment?

- 11.1 Not applicable.

12. Are there any other options?

- 12.1 Not applicable

Assistant Director Finance

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)

Background papers used in compiling this report:-

None

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