

Report sponsor: Strategic Director – Corporate Resources
Report author: Head of Internal Audit

Draft Local Code of Corporate Governance

Purpose

- 1.1 All local authorities are required to maintain a Local Code of Corporate Governance (the Local Code). The purpose of the Local Code is to set out the Council's commitment to the principles of good governance as set out in "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework 2016", published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) in association with the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE).
- 1.2 This report provides Members with the opportunity to review, comment and endorse the Council's revised Local Code, as set out in Appendix 1.

Recommendations

- 2.1 That the draft Local Code of Corporate Governance, as set out in Appendix 1, be endorsed and approved as a final document.

Reasons

- 3.1 The Audit and Governance Committee is the body in the Council that is charged with responsibility for governance. It is responsible for providing assurance to the Council on the effectiveness of the governance arrangements, risk management framework and internal control environment.

Supporting information

- 4.1 The Council's current Local Code was last reviewed and adopted by the Council in March 2017.
- 4.2 The revised Local Code is attached at Appendix 1. Rather than being prescriptive about the detail of the Council's Governance arrangements, the approach taken in writing the Local Code has been to confirm our commitment to the Principles detailed within the CIPFA/SOLACE Good Governance Framework. The Local Code identifies sources of evidence to support how the Council meets the requirements of each of the Principles. How well the Council has met each of the Principles is evaluated on an annual basis through the production of the Annual Governance Statement (AGS).
- 4.3 The Local Code will be kept under review on at least an annual basis.

Public/stakeholder engagement

5.1 None

Other options

6.1 None

Financial and value for money issues

7.1 None

Legal implications

8.1 None

Climate implications

9.1 None

Other significant implications

10.1 None

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal Finance Service Director(s) Report sponsor Other(s)	Simon Riley, Strategic Director – Corporate Resources	15 th January 2022
Background papers:	None	
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Draft Local Code of Corporate Governance	