

Local Code Of Corporate Governance

SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks approval of the revised and updated Local Code of Corporate Governance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To approve the revised Local Code of Corporate Governance.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

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

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 Corporate Governance is the system by which local authorities direct and control their functions and relate to their communities. It is founded on the fundamental principles of openness, integrity and accountability together with the overarching concept of leadership. In this respect, Derby City Council has put in place policies, systems and procedures designed to achieve this.
- 4.2 In March 2010, this Committee approved a revised Local Code of Corporate Governance (The Code). This is consistent with the principles and reflects the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance (CIPFA) and Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) in their document 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework'.

- 4.3 The Code is the framework by which the Council is accountable to its users, stakeholders and the wider community. It sets out and describes the way in which the Council carries out its functions through its Members and employees and the procedures and processes by which it undertakes its work, so ensuring that it establishes and maintains public confidence. The Council is responsible for ensuring that it conducts its business in accordance with the law and proper standards, that it safeguards and properly accounts for public money and that it uses it economically, efficiently and effectively.
- 4.4 The Code enables the Council's business processes to be assessed against best practice in the six core principle areas:
- focusing on the purpose of the authority and on outcomes for the community and creating and implementing a vision for the local area,
 - Members and Officers working together to achieve a common purpose with clearly defined functions and roles,
 - promoting values for the authority and demonstrating the values of good governance through upholding high standards of conduct and behaviour,
 - taking informed and transparent decisions which are subject to effective scrutiny and managing risk,
 - developing the capacity and capability of members and officers to be effective, and
 - engaging with local people and other stakeholders to ensure robust public accountability.
- 4.5 The Governance Board has reviewed and updated The Code to reflect changes that have happened to the Council's governance framework since its last review in 2010.
- 4.6 The Code will now be reviewed annually to reflect the further elements put in place over the previous 12 months and brought to this Committee for approval.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 None noted.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Service Director(s) Other(s)	Governance Board, Chief Officer Group
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For more information contact:	Richard Boneham Head of Governance and Assurance, 01332 643280 richard.boneham@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	None

List of appendices:

Appendix 1 – Implications
Appendix 2 – Local Code of Corporate Governance

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

1.1 None directly arising.

Legal

2.1 None directly arising

Personnel

3.1 None directly arising.

Equalities Impact

4.1 None directly arising.

Health and Safety

5.1 None directly arising.

Environmental Sustainability

6.1 None directly arising.

Asset Management

7.1 None directly arising.

Risk Management

8.1 Sound risk management practices are a key principle of good governance.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

9.1 The governance framework includes arrangements to plan and monitor delivery of the Council's priorities.