

Audit Committee
22nd March 2016

Subject: Code of Corporate Governance

Purpose: To approve the updated Code of Corporate Governance and Terms of Reference for the Corporate Governance Group

Recommendations / key decisions required:

Audit Committee be invited to approve the updated:

- i) Code of Corporate Governance
- ii) Terms of Reference for Corporate Governance

Reasons:

To present the documents for approval by the Audit Committee

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted:

Not Applicable

Exec Board Decision Required Not Applicable

Council Decision Required Not Applicable

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr D Jenkins

Directorate:

Corporate Services

Name of Head of Service:

Phil Sexton

Report Author:

Helen Pugh

Designations:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Audit Committee
22nd March 2016

SUBJECT

Code of Corporate Governance

The Audit Committee are responsible for reviewing and assessing the Corporate Governance arrangements within the Authority and for making reports and recommendations on the adequacy and effectiveness of those arrangements to the Authority

The new Code of Governance was approved at the County Council meeting on 13th June 2012, and has recently been reviewed and updated by the Corporate Governance Group. The Code of Corporate Governance formalises the Governance arrangements within the Authority, which enables the Authority to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost-effective services.

The Governance Framework (The Code of Corporate Governance) comprises the systems, processes and cultures and values by which the Authority is directed. Also it focuses on the activities through which the Council engages with and leads the Community

The Code of Corporate Governance recognises and formalises the standard to which the Authority operates to in a single over-arching document.

The Local Government Measure 2011 ***“gives the Audit Committee the function of reviewing and assessing the Corporate Governance arrangements and making reports and recommendations on the adequacy and effectiveness of those arrangements to the Authority.”***

Each year, the Chief Executive and Leader of Council are required to prepare an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) reviewing and assessing the extent to which an adequate Corporate Governance Framework exists within the Authority. This is included within the Annual Statement of Accounts which is approved by the Audit Committee.

The Annual Governance Statement measures the extent to which the aims and objectives of the adopted Code of Governance have been adequately met and identifies any areas where further attention is required.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

YES : Updated Code of Governance and Terms of Reference for the Corporate Governance Group

IMPLICATIONS

<p>I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :</p> <p>Signed: Phil Sexton Head of Audit, Risk & Procurement</p>						
Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

<p>I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below</p> <p>Signed: Phil Sexton Head of Audit, Risk & Procurement</p>		
<p>1. Scrutiny Committee : Not Applicable</p> <p>2. Local Member(s) : Not Applicable</p> <p>3. Community / Town Council : Not Applicable</p> <p>4. Relevant Partners : Not Applicable</p> <p>5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations : Not Applicable</p>		
<p>Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information</p> <p>List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:</p> <p>THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW</p>		
Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Code of Corporate Governance	AC 22-3-16	Internal Audit Unit