

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE**  
**12/06/2023**

**REVIEW OF WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY**

**Purpose:**

To note the operation of the policy during 2022/2023 and receive the draft revised policy

**Recommendations / key decisions required:**

That the revised draft policy be approved

**Reasons:**

This forms part of the functions of the committee

Cabinet Decision Required                      NO

Council Decision Required                      NO

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-    Not applicable

Directorate: Chief Executives

Name of Head of Service:

Linda Rees-Jones

Report Author:

Robert Edgecombe

Designations:

Head of Administration  
and Law

Legal Services Manager

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
STANDARDS COMMITTEE  
12/06/2023**

**REVIEW OF THE WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY**

The Public Interest Disclosure Act 1988 (PIDA) aims to protect individuals (particularly employees) who make certain disclosures of information in the public interest.

In line with best practice the Council has previously adopted a policy aimed at raising awareness of the PIDA protections amongst staff and establishing procedures to enable them to make protected disclosures under the Act.

This policy is reviewed annually and following consideration by the committee an exercise is undertaken to publicise the latest version of the policy to staff.

There have been no changes to relevant legislation or guidance since the policy was last reviewed. Therefore, the only changes that have been made are to update the names and contact details of individuals listed in paragraphs 34-38.

A copy of the draft amended policy is attached.

During the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 a total of 3 whistleblowing complaints were received all of which were investigated, and the investigations concluded.

One whistleblowing complaint received in 2021/2022 was carried over into the period covered by this report. The investigation of this complaint was also concluded.

The number of complaints received is comparable with previous years. This is the first occasion however that the Council has been able to investigate all the complaints in the same year that they have been received.

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES**

# IMPLICATIONS

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:

Signed: *Linda Rees-Jones*

Head of Administration and Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

## 2. Legal

Consideration of the operation of the Council's Whistleblowing Policy forms part of the remit of the Committee as set out in Article 9 of the constitution.

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: *Linda Rees-Jones*

Head of Administration and Law

### 1. Scrutiny Committee request for pre-determination

N/A

Scrutiny Committee

N/A

Date the report was considered:-

N/A

Scrutiny Committee Outcome/Recommendations:-  
Not Applicable

2. Local Member(s) Not Applicable

3. Community / Town Council Not Applicable

4. Relevant Partners Not applicable

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations Not Applicable

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO  
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED  
NO

Not applicable

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information  
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Legal Department File	DPSC-212	County Hall Carmarthen