

21 January 2020

Report of

Monitoring Officer

Author

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☎ 508902

Title

Revised Code of Corporate Governance

Wards
affected

Not applicable

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report requests the Committee to review the Local Code of Corporate Governance for 2019/20. The Local Code of Corporate Governance is how the Council demonstrates that its structures comply with the recognised principles of good governance.
- 1.2 The report also recommends that Full Council includes the Code in its Policy Framework which comprises all of the Authority's key policies.

2. Recommended Decision

- 2.1 To review the updated Local Code of Corporate Governance for 2019/20.
- 2.2 To recommend to Full Council that it be approved for inclusion in the Council's Policy Framework.

3. Reason for Recommended Decision

- 3.1 The Committee was originally asked to review the Local Code of Corporate Governance for 2019/20 at their meeting on 26 November 2019. However, concerns were raised over the wording for Principle 2 (*Members and officers working together to achieve a common purpose, with clearly defined functions and roles*) and the use of the phrase 'common purpose', as Councillors do not necessarily have the same political objectives.
- 3.2 Whilst the wording for the code is prescribed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance, it was agreed that it would be reviewed to provide clarity on the definition of 'common purpose', and a revised code would be submitted to this meeting of the Committee.
- 3.3 The objective of Principle 2 is to ensure that Councillors and Officers work together to deliver the functions of the Council and implement the Council's vision.
- 3.4 The Council's vision was set out in the Strategic Plan for 2018-21, which was unanimously agreed by Full Council on 21 February 2018.
- 3.4 Therefore, the wording for Principle 2 has been amended to '*Members and officers working together to deliver the objectives of the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan (the common purpose), with clearly defined functions and roles.*'

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 There are no alternative options to consider

5. Equality, Diversity and Human Rights implications

- 5.1 There are no equality, diversity or Human Rights implications as a result of this report.

6. Strategic Plan References

- 6.1 The achievement of the strategic plan requires a sound system of governance to ensure the effective delivery of services. Therefore, improving on existing governance arrangements will help to ensure that the strategic plan objectives can be achieved.

7. Risk Management Implications

- 7.1 Risk Management is a fundamental part of the Governance process and a failure to agree a Code of Corporate Governance may have an effect on the ability of the Council to control its risks.

8. Environmental and Sustainability Implications

- 8.1 There are no environmental or sustainability implications as a result of this report.

9.1 Other Standard References

- 9.1 There are no particular references to consultation, publicity considerations or financial; community safety or health and safety implications.

10. Appendices

- 10.1 Appendix A – Revised Code of Corporate Governance 2019/20.