

## **CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Member approval to the revised assessment of our compliance with the Local Code of Corporate Governance which is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

### **2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Council adopted a Local Code of Corporate Governance at a meeting of Full Council on 30 July 2002 (Minute 379/02 refers).
- 2.2 Following on from that decision officers carried out an assessment as to how the authority performed against the criteria set out in the Code.
- 2.3 The assessment carried out was endorsed by Members at a meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee held on 3 October 2002 (Minute 478/02 refers).

### **3 MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CODE**

- 3.1 The Code requires that its implementation and monitoring should be overseen by the Corporate Policy Manager. That officer is also required to review the Code on an annual basis and report to this Committee.
- 3.2 The Audit and Process Review Manager is also required to review the Code and report annually to this Committee.
- 3.3 These provisions are contained in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the attached Code.
- 3.4 In the absence of the Corporate Policy Manager, the annual review has been overseen by the Corporate Director (Finance and External Services). The comments of the Audit and Process Review Manager will be reported to this Committee in September.

### **4 REVISED ASSESSMENT**

- 4.1 The revised assessment is shown in the Appendix to the Code, and indicates which officer should be responsible for the various plans for improvement.
- 4.2 Following the publication of the results of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment inspection, the council has agreed a Comprehensive Performance Assessment improvement Plan. The revised Corporate Governance assessment reflects issues contained in the Improvement Plan.

**5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There is a use of officer resource in monitoring and re-assessing the Code. Conversely, rigorous corporate governance, coupled with good risk management, will minimise potential financial loss.

**6 RECOMMENDATION**

- 6.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RECOMMENDS** to Council

The agreement of the annual assessment of the Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance.

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**Background Papers:**

None

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