

Title of Report	ANNUAL REVIEW OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE POLICIES	
Presented by	Councillor Nick Rushton Corporate Portfolio Holder	
Background Papers	Audit and Governance Committee report and minutes – 27 July 2022	Public Report: Yes
		Key Decision: Yes
Financial Implications	The update of policies will protect the Council's finances.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	The update of policies will ensure compliance with current legislation.	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	Any staffing or corporate implications are detailed in the policies.	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	To seek Cabinet's comments on the Council's Revised Governance Policies.	
Reason for Decision	To ensure that the Council has an up to date suite of governance policies in place reflecting the law and best practice.	
Recommendations	<p>THAT CABINET:</p> <p>1. NOTES THE COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MADE AT ITS MEETING ON THE 27 JULY 2022</p> <p>2. APPROVES THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE POLICES LISTED IN PARAGRAPH 2.</p>	

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and appropriate standards. In discharging this responsibility, the Council has in place arrangements for governance of its affairs and staff.

1.2 The following documents constitute the Council's suite of Corporate policies:

Policy	Last Reviewed
Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy	2021
Anti-Money Laundering Policy	2021
Confidential Reporting (Whistleblowing Policy)	2021
Risk Management Policy	2021
RIPA Policy	2021
Information Management Policy	2021
Data Protection Policy	2021
ICT & Cyber Security Policy	2021
Local Code of Corporate Governance	2021

2.0 POLICY REVIEW

2.1 The policies have been reviewed by a team comprising Legal Services, Internal Audit, ICT, the Monitoring Officer, the Strategic Director of Housing and Customer Services, the Data Protection Officer and the Section 151 Officer.

The main changes to each policy are summarised below:

2.2 Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy

There have been no changes in legislation that affect this Policy since the previous review, therefore, only minimum amendments have been made, namely, the updated officer details.

2.3 Anti-Money Laundering Policy

There have been no changes in legislation that affect this Policy since the previous review, therefore, only minimum amendments have been made, namely, the updated officer details.

2.4 Confidential Reporting (Whistleblowing Policy)

There have been no changes in legislation that affect this Policy since the previous review, therefore, only minimum amendments have been made, namely, the updated officer details.

2.5 Risk Management Policy

The Policy remains substantively unchanged. Minor updates to reflect current practise have been made. Following the audit earlier in 2022 which was agreed by Audit and Governance Committee, the outstanding actions regarding risk appetite, tolerance and detailing roles of particular officers have been added in the form of a new section 5 and additional detail to the annex to the policy.

2.6 RIPA Policy

There have been no changes to this Policy.

2.7 Information Management Policy

There have been no changes to this Policy.

2.8 Data Protection Policy

There have been no changes to this Policy.

2.9 ICT & Cyber Security Policy

There have been no changes to this Policy.

2.10 Local Code of Corporate Governance

The table in section 1.3 has been updated to reflect the current Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) guidance. Only presentational changes have been made to the narrative in terms of format and colours.

Section 1.7. has been included and references the Nolan Principles regarding standards in public life. These are the same seven principles on which the Code is based, however, the previous version did not include any reference to Nolan. A link to the Government website has also been incorporated for reference.

3.0 **COMMENTS FROM AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

3.1 This Report along with the appended policies were presented to the Audit and Governance Committee on the 27 July 2022. The minutes of this Committee can be found by following the link in the background papers.

3.2 The Audit and Governance Committee did not propose any amendments to the policies and resolved that they be noted ahead of consideration by Cabinet.

4.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no direct financial implications as a result of the review of these corporate policies.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	Our communities are safe, healthy and connected.
Policy Considerations:	All those detailed within this report.
Safeguarding:	Whistleblowing, surveillance using Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) and Protecting people's data are both considered to be safeguarding our communities.
Equalities/Diversity:	The opportunity for whistleblowing helps to ensure any risk of inequality or lack of diversity can be highlighted.
Customer Impact:	Anti-fraud, anti-money laundering and corruption

	will protect the customer from financial impact.
Economic and Social Impact:	Anti-fraud, anti-money laundering and corruption will protect the customer from economic impact.
Environment and Climate Change:	N/A
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	N/A
Risks:	Risk Management Policy.
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