

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – WEDNESDAY, 6
AUGUST 2025



Title of Report	REVIEW OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE POLICIES	
Presented by	Paul Stone Director of Strategic Resources	
Background Papers	None	Public Report: Yes
Financial Implications	There are no financial implications to be considered.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	The policies are reviewed annually to ensure any updates in the law are noted so that the Council acts in accordance with the law.	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	The suite of Corporate Governance Policies is regularly reviewed to ensure the Council operates effectively, in line with the appropriate standards.	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	To receive the Committee's comments on the Council's annual review of the Corporate Governance Policies ahead of Cabinet.	
Recommendations	THAT THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE PROVIDES ANY COMMENTS IT MAY HAVE FOR CONSIDERATION BY CABINET WHEN IT MEETS TO CONSIDER THE POLICIES ON 23 SEPTEMBER 2025.	

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 the 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	2024
Anti-Money Laundering Policy	2024
Confidential Reporting (Whistleblowing) Policy	2024
Risk Management Policy	2024

RIPA Policy	2024
Local Code of Corporate Governance	2024
Information Governance Framework	2024
Data Protection Policy	2024
Information Security Policy	2024
Information Rights Policy	2024
Records Management Policy	2024

1.3 An annual review of the suite of policies has been undertaken and the revised draft policies are appended to this report. The Committee's views are sought ahead of consideration of the policies at Cabinet on 23 September 2025.

1.4 The Committee may recall that last year the Council adopted a new Information Governance Framework (the "Framework"), which incorporated four policies in relation to Data Protection, Information Rights, Information Security and Records Management. Underneath the policies sits a suite of guidance and procedures for use by officers within the Council to ensure compliance with the policies within the Framework. As the Framework has been in place for nearly a year, a more thorough review has been undertaken to assess whether the balance is right between requirements contained in policies and information contained in guidance. That review has taken longer than expected, as it involves cross-working between various services, including Information Governance and IT. Considering this, the review of these policies will be brought back to this Committee in November 2025 and then taken onto Cabinet at its next available meeting. It is intended that in future years, the Framework and associated policies will fall back within the Annual Corporate Governance Policies review.

2.0 POLICY REVIEW

2.1 Save for those in red text, the policies outlined in paragraph 1.2 have been reviewed by the relevant officers responsible for them.

2.2 The main changes to each policy are summarised below.

Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy

There have been no changes in legislation that affect this policy since the previous review. Therefore, only minor amendments have been made including updates to names referenced within the policy.

Anti-Money Laundering Policy

There have been no changes in legislation that affect this policy since the previous review. Therefore, there have not been any amendments made to the policy following this review.

Confidential Reporting (Whistleblowing Policy)

There have been no changes in legislation that affect this policy since the previous review. Therefore, only minor amendments have been made including updates to names, contact details and the Council's address.

Risk Management Policy

There have been no changes in legislation that affect this policy since the previous review. Therefore, there have not been any amendments made to the policy following this review.

RIPA Policy

There have been no changes in legislation that affect this policy since the previous review. Therefore, there have not been any amendments made to the policy following this review.

Local Code of Corporate Governance

There have been no changes in legislation that affect this policy since the previous review. Therefore, only minor amendments have been made to the formatting of the document.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	A Well-Run Council.
Policy Considerations:	As detailed within the report.
Safeguarding:	Whistleblowing, surveillance using RIPA and Protecting people's data are all 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 any negative economic impacts.
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon	N/A.
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	N/A.
Risks:	As part of its Corporate Governance arrangements, the Council must ensure that Risk management is considered and satisfactorily covered in any report put before elected Members for a decision or action. The purpose of this report is to set out the review undertaken by Corporate Governance Policy authors and detail the changes made. As part of this, the Risk Management Policy is reviewed annually.
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