




Report to:	Audit and Governance Committee	Date:	18 June 2020
Report title:	Code of Corporate Governance		
Report from:	Richard Simpson, Strategic Director - Resources		
Ward/Areas affected:	Borough Wide		
Chair of Committee/Lead Member:	Councillor Sam Weatherlake		
Author(s)/Contact Number(s):	Margaret Culleton, Head of Internal Audit, 020 8770 4956		
Corporate Plan Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Smarter way of working 		
Open/Exempt:	Open		
Signed:		Date:	2 June 2020

1. Summary

- 1.1 The attached Code of Governance has been prepared for approval by the Audit and Governance Committee.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 To approve the Code of Corporate Governance.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Code of Corporate Governance demonstrates the Council's commitment to good governance, and reflects the following core principles and requirements of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework: Delivering Good Governance in Local Government.

- Behaving with integrity, demonstrating a strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law.
- Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement
- Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, and environmental benefits
- Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes
- Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it

- Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management
 - Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability
- 3.2 The council is responsible for ensuring its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively.
- 3.3 In discharging its responsibility, the council is required to put in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, which include arrangements for the management of risk. Local authorities are expected to maintain a Code of Governance to show their commitment to good governance and demonstrate how the principles of good governance are applied.
- 3.4 The Code of Governance forms part of the Annual Governance Statement process, which sets out how the council has complied with the code and meets the requirements of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015, regulation 6 (1), which requires all relevant bodies to prepare and approve an annual governance statement.

4. Issues

- 4.1 None

5. Options Considered

- 5.1 Not applicable to this report

6. Impacts and Implications

Financial

- 6.1 There are no particular resource implications arising from this report.

Legal

- 6.2 Monitoring of compliance with the Code occurs through the Governance Assurance Framework – used to prepare the self assessment underpinning the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) necessary to meet the statutory requirement set out in regulation 6(1) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.



7. **Appendices and Background Documents**

Appendix letter	Title
A	Code of Corporate Governance

Background documents
None

Audit Trail		
Version	Final	Date: 2 June 2020
Consultation with other officers		
Finance	Yes	N/A
Legal	No	N/A
Equality Impact Assessment required?	No	N/A

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