

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Code of Corporate Governance</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>23 June 2015</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Head of Legal and Democratic Services</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Elizabeth Culbert</b>	<b>Tel: 29-1515</b>
	<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:Elizabeth.Culbert@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk">Elizabeth.Culbert@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Ward(s) affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE****1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 The 2013/14 annual governance statement noted that to ensure continuous improvement in the Council's governance arrangements, the council would review its Code of Corporate Governance. Appendix 1 sets out a draft updated Code.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the Audit & Standards Committee considers and approves the draft updated Code of Corporate Governance.

**3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Corporate Governance is the means by which the council ensures that it is doing the right things, in the right way, for the right people, in a timely, inclusive, open, honest and accountable manner. It comprises the systems and processes, and cultures and values, by which local government bodies are directed and controlled and through which they account to, engage with and, where appropriate, lead their communities.
- 3.2 A code of corporate governance explains how an organisation complies with statutory requirements and best practice guidance on corporate governance. It serves as a means of increasing credibility, accountability and public confidence in the organisation.

**4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 4.1 The draft Code is based upon the guidance published jointly by CIPFA<sup>1</sup> and SOLACE<sup>2</sup> entitled 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework'. The Guidance sets out six core principles of corporate governance, together with various supporting principles in respect of each core principle.

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<sup>1</sup> The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

<sup>2</sup> The Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers.

- 4.2 It forms a key part of the council's drive to ensure continuous improvement in the Council's governance.

## **5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 A wide range of senior officers have been consulted in drafting the updated Code.

## **6. CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 A Code of Corporate Governance forms a key part of the council's drive to ensure continuous improvement in the way the council operates. Members of the Audit & Standards Committee should consider and approve the proposed update.

## **7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

### Financial Implications:

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. The arrangements set out in the Code of Conduct are expected to be delivered within current budgets.

*Finance Officer Consulted: James Hengeveld*

*Date: 11/06/15*

### Legal Implications:

- 7.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

*Lawyer Consulted: Elizabeth Culbert*

*Date: 11/06/15*

### Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 None

### Sustainability Implications:

- 7.4 None

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1. Draft Code of Corporate Governance