

**Subject:** Code of Corporate Governance  
**Date of Meeting:** 28 April 2009  
Council 30 April 2009  
**Report of:** Director of Finance & Resources  
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**Wards Affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 This report presents the revised Local Code of Corporate Governance for the Governance Committee's consideration as part of the council's corporate governance framework.
- 1.2 This report was submitted to the Audit Committee on the 31<sup>st</sup> March and subsequently recommended for approval by the full council.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Governance Committee notes the contents of the council's Code of Corporate Governance.

#### 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Corporate governance is a phrase used to describe how organisations direct and control what they do. For local authorities this includes how they relate to communities that they serve.
- 3.2 The Code of corporate Governance is a public statement that sets out the way in which the council will demonstrate effective corporate governance. It is part of the council's Constitution.
- 3.3 Due to high profile failures in governance arrangements in other areas, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) produced a framework document in 2007, "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government.
- 3.4 Although there is no statutory requirement on local authorities to produce a Code of Corporate Governance it is considered to be best practice and an expectation by the Audit Commission.
- 3.5 The previous Code of Corporate Governance was agreed by full council in March 2008.

