# GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

### Agenda Item 99

**Brighton & Hove City Council** 

## EXTRACT FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 31 MARCH 2009

Subject: Code of Corporate Governance

Date of Meeting: 28 April 2009

Audit Committee 31 March 2009

Council 30 April 2009

Report of: Director of Strategy and Governance

**Key Decision:** No

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Wards Affected: All

#### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### **BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

AUDIT COMMITTEE 4.00pm 31 MARCH 2009

#### **COMMITTEE ROOM 1, HOVE TOWN HALL**

#### **MINUTES**

**Present**: Councillors Hamilton (Chairman), Alford, Kitcat, Oxley, Pidgeon, Randall, Simpson, Smith, Watkins (Deputy Chairman) and Wells

#### **PART ONE**

#### 96. CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

96.1 The Head of Audit and Business Risk presented a report on the Code of Corporate Governance and stated that this formed part of the Council's constitution, which was a best practise procedure adopted by local authorities (for copy see minute book). The Code states six key principles that form a statement of intent for the Council, with following points for each principle to ensure their full achievement by the Council.

- 96.2 Councillor Kitcat asked why the Committee was receiving the report when there were no financial or other implications given, and the Head of Audit and Business Risk stated that the Committee was being asked to recommend the adoption of the Code by Full Council and it was part of good governance procedures to bring the draft Code to the Audit Committee.
- 96.3 Mr Brown from the Audit Commission added that the Code would underpin much of the audit assessment work being done for the Comprehensive Area Assessment and it was implicitly required to achieve a good CAA rating.
- 96.4 Councillor Randall asked what the key revisions of the Code were and the Head of Audit and Business Risk stated that it had been simplified to encourage understanding, but no major changes had been made.
- 96.5 **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND -** That the revised Code of Corporate Governance be adopted.