

**REPORT OF THE CITY SOLICITOR**

---

**TO THE AUDIT & ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**

**27 JULY 2022**

---

**TITLE:** Code of Corporate Governance

---

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That Members approve the updated Code of Corporate Governance for publication.
- 

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

- 2.0 Local Authorities are required to produce an annual Code of Corporate Governance (the Code). The Code contains details of the arrangements the Council has in place to ensure that the Council's corporate governance arrangements are legally compliant, transparent and appropriate.
  - 2.1 This Committee received a draft updated 2022 Code for Salford City Council on 22 June 2022 for review and comment. The final version of the draft Code, incorporating comments made at the last meeting, is attached at Appendix 1 for approval.
- 

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:**

- CIPFA Bulletin 06 Application of the Good Governance Framework 2020/21 guidance issued in February 2021
  - CIPFA/SOLACE Framework 2007: *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government*, and the revised guidance note issued in April 2016.
  - Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015
  - Report to Audit and Accounts Committee on 22 June 2022
- 

**KEY DECISION:** No

---

## DETAILS:

- 3.0 Under the 2016 Governance Framework produced by The Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA) it is recommended that all local government bodies develop a local code of governance and that the local code should be reviewed and updated at least annually. The local code should set out how the authority's governance arrangements work towards meeting the seven principles of good governance, that are set out in the Framework.
- 3.1 The Corporate Code of Governance compliments the Annual Governance Statement which will be audited by our external auditors, along with the Council's Annual Accounts. The Code is a public document and will therefore be published on the Council's website.
- 3.2 The draft Local Code of Corporate Governance 2022 for Salford City Council was presented to the Audit and Accounts Committee for review and comment on 22 June 2022. On that date, the Committee asked for a reference to Salford's Climate Action Board to be included.
- 3.3 The final version of the Local Code of Corporate Governance is attached at Appendix 1. The amendments requested by Committee on the last occasion have been incorporated at section B2. The Audit and Assurance Committee is therefore now asked to approve the Code as a final version for publication.

KEY COUNCIL POLICIES: None noted

---

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND IMPLICATIONS: None noted

---

## ASSESSMENT OF RISK:

- 4.0 If the Council fails to maintain robust internal controls and fails to comply with legislation and regulations, then there are reputational risks as well as financial and legal risks. Risk Management is key to the Council's governance procedures and is addressed in the Code of Corporate Governance.
- 

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS Supplied by: Iolanda Puzio, City Solicitor

- 5.0 The Code of Corporate Governance reflects the current assignment of responsibilities to ensure compliance with the principles and behaviours agreed by CIPFA. The Council should continue to monitor the arrangements set out in

the Code for effectiveness as well as reviewing the Code on a continuing basis to ensure that it reflects the latest guidance and legislative requirements.

- 5.1 Local authorities have a legal responsibility to conduct, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of their governance framework including their system of internal control (Regulation 4(3) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015) and this review is undertaken by reference to the local code. Following the review, the Annual Governance Statement must be produced, approved and published.

---

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS Supplied by: N/A**

There are no direct financial implications from this report.

---

**PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS Supplied by: N/A**

There are no known procurement implications with this report.

---

**HR IMPLICATIONS Supplied by: N/A**

There are no known HR implications with this report.

---

**CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS Supplied by: N/A**

---

**OTHER DIRECTORATES CONSULTED:** All Service Group Strategic Directors and Corporate Management Team.

---

**CONTACT OFFICER:** Iolanda Puzio    **TEL NO:** 0161 793 3620

---

**WARDS TO WHICH REPORT RELATES:** N/A