

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE	24 SEPTEMBER 2020	5
CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

The council's present Code of Corporate Governance was revised in 2017. At that time changes to national guidance had made it appropriate to revisit and review the existing code.

This report is brought in light of a periodic review of the Code.

RECOMMENDATION

To adopt the updated Code of Corporate Governance in place of the existing code.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Audit Committee, 3 April 2008: To approve the local code of governance as a framework to work towards and seek an updated report at the next meeting of the committee.

Audit Committee, 17 June 2008: To approve the local code of corporate governance.

Audit & Standards Committee 16 June 2016: Adopted an updated code of corporate governance in place of the existing code.

Audit and Standards Committee 21 September 2017: Adopted an updated code of corporate governance in place of the existing code.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES	
Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services (Value for Money)	✓
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council (Clean and Green)	
Working with all partners (Vibrant Economy)	
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live (A Great Place to Live)	
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit (A Great Place to Visit)	

REPORT

THE CIPFA/SOLACE FRAMEWORK

1. The council's present Code of Corporate Governance was adopted in June 2017 following the publication of a new edition of the Framework. The code was adopted in conformity with guidance contained in "Good Governance in Local Government: A Framework", issued by the Chartered Institute of Finance and Accountancy and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives.
2. The Framework seeks that councils develop and maintain an up-to-date local code of governance consistent with the core principles set out in the guidance. This included deciding for ensuring ongoing application and effectiveness of the local code, reviewing governance arrangements against the Framework and preparing governance statements each year to report publicly on how they comply with their own codes including how effective their governance arrangements are.

THE UPDATED CODE

3. As three years have passed since its last review, a periodic review of the Code of Corporate Governance has been undertaken by the Director of Resources, in consultation with other members of the Council's Corporate Governance Group namely the Section 151 Officer, Head of Governance and Shared Head of Internal Audit.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However, the Code of Corporate Governance is a key component of the council's commitment to sound financial management.
Legal	The preparation of a code of governance and an annual governance statement complying with the CIPFA/SOLACE guidance is effectively a legal requirement under the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011.
Community Safety	None relating directly to this report
Human Rights and Equalities	None relating directly to this report
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	None relating directly to this report
Health & Safety and Risk Management	Good risk management is crucial to proper corporate governance, as the code and the CIPFA/SOLACE guidance makes clear.

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework	2016	Town Hall, St Annes
Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Guidance Note for English Authorities	2016	Town Hall, St Annes
Fylde Council Code of Corporate Governance	2016	https://fylde.cmis.uk.com/fylde/DocumentsandInformation.aspx

Attached documents

1. Proposed revised Code of Corporate Governance