

DECISION ITEM



REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE	16 JUNE 2016	6
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 adopted in 2008. Changes to national guidance and to the council's systems of managerial and political governance since then have made it appropriate to revisit and review the existing code. The report presents a revised code to the committee for consideration and adoption.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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.

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 April 2008. 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 ("CIPFA") and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives ("SOLACE").
2. The Framework urged councils to develop and maintain an up-to-date local code of governance consistent with the core principles set out in the guidance. This included making arrangements 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. Since the council adopted its existing code, CIPFA has published revised guidance on and an addendum to the framework. During that time, the council has undergone significant changes in its managerial and political arrangements. These include the adoption of a committee system and the discontinuation of the overview and scrutiny committees.
4. These changes make it appropriate to review the council's Code of Corporate Governance. The officer Corporate Governance Group, consisting of the Director of Resources, Chief Financial Officer, Head of Governance and Chief Internal Auditor have undertaken a review of the existing code. A proposed revised code is attached. The existing code can be downloaded from [here](#).

The main changes in the revised code are to make it compatible with the committee system, simplify some of the more over-engineered procedures, particularly around partnership protocols, and generally streamline the document where possible. Members are asked to approve the changes by adopting the revised code

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	The Code of Corporate Governance is a key component of the council's commitment to sound financial systems.
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	TEL	DATE	DOC ID
Ian Curtis	01253 658506	21 March 2016	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework	2007	Town Hall, St Annes
Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Guidance Note for English Authorities	2012	Town Hall, St Annes
Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Addendum	2012	Town Hall, St Annes
Fylde Council Code of Corporate Governance	2008	www.fylde.gov.uk/council/your-council/governance-control/

Attached documents

1. Proposed revised Code of Corporate Governance