

**GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
25 JANUARY 2011**

**CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE
(Director of Corporate Services – Legal)**

1. PURPOSE OF DECISION

- 1.1 This report seeks the approval of the Committee to amendments to the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Council's Code of Corporate Governance be amended as shown in Annexe A to this report.**

3 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 3.1 The Borough Solicitor is the author of this report.

Borough Treasurer

- 3.2 There are no financial implications directly arising.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 3.3 Not applicable.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 3.4 None Relevant.

4 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 In January 2009 the Council adopted a Local Code of Governance. The Code was adopted in accordance with CIPFA/SOLACE guidance which effectively establishes the principles of sound corporate governance for local authorities.
- 4.2 One of the actions contained in the approved Annual Governance Statement for 2010-11 was "to review and ensure the Local Code of Governance is up to date". Accordingly, the Code was reviewed at a meeting of the officer Governance Working Group, Annexe A shows tracked the amendments proposed by the Working Group.
- 4.3 At this juncture the amendments proposed to the Code are relatively modest. However, the Localism Bill, when enacted, will make significant changes to a number of governance topics and therefore it is likely that more radical surgery will be required to the Code during the next municipal year.

- 4.4 Should the Committee be minded to endorse the recommendation the revised Code will be published on the Council's web-site and the Code will be drawn to the attention of both Members and officers.

Background Papers

Annual Governance Statement

CIPFA/SOLACE "Delivery Good Governance in Local Government: Framework"

Contract For Further Information

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