

**Code of Corporate Governance  
Foreword**

Herefordshire Council is responsible for ensuring that its activities are conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively.

In discharging this accountability, Members and senior officers are responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of the Council's affairs and the stewardship of its resources.

To help in this responsibility the Council has adopted a Code of Corporate Governance, which is consistent with the principles of and reflects the requirements of the CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) and SOLACE (Society of Local Authority Chief Executives) framework 'Corporate Governance in Local Government: a keystone for Community Governance'.

The Director of Resources, the Council's Section 151 officer is responsible for the efficiency and effectiveness of the Code with regards to financial probity, performance and risk.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services, the Council's Monitoring Officer together with the Standards Committee is responsible for the efficiency, effectiveness and compliance of the Code with regards to legal probity and the ethical framework.

Annually the Director of Resources and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services will submit a report on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Code to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee and the Standards Committee respectively.

The Council is seeking to continually improve the effectiveness of the arrangements for the Governance of the Council's affairs. The Council will review the Code as part of its annual review.

Cllr R. Phillips  
Leader of the Council

N. Pringle  
Chief Executive