

CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Report By: Democratic Services Officer

Wards Affected

County-Wide

Purpose

1. To consider the attached revisions to the Draft Code of Corporate Governance, and make amendments.

Background

2. The Audit and Corporate Governance Committee considered the Council's Draft Code of Corporate Governance at its meeting on 22 September 2006, and agreed to ask the Standards Committee for its amendments and comments before approval by Council.
3. The Standards Committee Considered the Code on 20 October 2006, and suggested amendments to Paragraph 42, such as expanding the information to include more details about the Council's ethical framework, and the roles of the Monitoring Officer and the Standards Committee. They felt that the document should also make specific reference to the various codes that the Standards Committee had developed, and continued to monitor, such as the Code of Conduct, and protocols relating to the use of Council resources, and to planning matters.
4. Since 20 October 2007, the Code has been circulated to the Head of Communications and the Audit Manger for amendments, and they have suggested various revisions.
5. The Standards Committee also considered a foreword to the Code at its meeting on 12 February 2007, and the Chairman undertook to revise this.
6. Attached to this report are the revised foreword, and the most up-to-date version of the Code of Corporate Governance as a standard document. The same document, but with all of the tracked changes showing, will be circulated separately because it is in colour and requires a different printing method to the agenda.
7. The Code requires further work before it can be finalised and adopted.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Standards Committee reviews the attached Code of Corporate Governance and all of the recent revisions, and makes its final amendments before adoption by Council.