

Code of Corporate Governance

FOREWORD

Herefordshire Council must meet high ethical and other standards in everything it does; it must comply with legal requirements; and it must use public money and other resources economically, efficiently and effectively, accounting fully for its actions.

In order to discharge these responsibilities, Members and senior Officers must ensure the proper governance of the Council's affairs and the stewardship of its resources.

The Council has therefore adopted a Code of Corporate Governance, which observes the requirements of the framework *Corporate Governance in Local Government: a keystone for Community Governance*, approved by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives.

The Council's Director of Resources is responsible for the effective application of the Code in matters of financial probity, performance and risk.

The Council's Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic), and Monitoring Officer, is responsible for the effective application of the Code in respect of legal obligations and ethical standards.

Each will make an annual report on the effectiveness of the Code to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee, and to the Standards Committee, respectively.

As part of its efforts further to improve standards of governance, the Council will itself carry out an annual review of the effectiveness of the Code.