

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

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Report Originator	Martin Hammond, Monitoring Officer	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i>	
Wards Affected	All	27 th February 2019	
Title	CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE		

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present the draft Code of Corporate Governance 2019 for review and approval following its recommendation by the Monitoring and Audit Committee

2. INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Council already has an Annual Governance Statement, which is presented to Monitoring and Audit Committee, and is then approved each year as part of the Accounts. To strengthen the Annual Governance Statement, it is recommended best practice that a local authority adopts a Code of Corporate Governance, consistent with the framework and guidance published by CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy).
- 2.2 The Council does not currently have an adopted Code of Corporate Governance, and it was a recommendation of internal auditors that a Code should be developed and adopted. The draft Code at **Appendix A** is consistent with the current CIPFA guidance published in April 2016.
- 2.3 There are seven core principles, each of which has a number of sub-principles. The guidance positions social and environmental outcomes as a key focus of governance processes and structures, as CIPFA considers that the focus on sustainability and the links between governance and public financial management are crucial in these times of austerity, and underpin the need for local authorities to focus on long term solutions.
- 2.4 The Code specifically identifies the actions and behaviours taken by the Council in relation to each of the core principles and associated sub principles.
- 2.5 The draft Code of Corporate Governance is attached at **Appendix A**.

3. CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT

- 3.1 No consultation is necessary, the Code is based on national best practice and guidance. In terms of customer impact, the Code, once approved, will be published on the Council's website, making the Council's governance arrangements easily accessible to the public.

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3.2 This report and the appended draft code were submitted to the Monitoring and Audit Committee at its meeting on 5th February 2019 and the committee recommended that it be submitted to Council for approval without amendment.

4. **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 If adopted by Council, the Code of Corporate Governance will form part of the Council's Policy Framework and will be kept under regular review.

5. **FINANCIAL RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None directly from this report.

6. **HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 None directly from this report.

7. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 The Council must adopt a Code of Corporate Governance which has been produced to the standards prescribed in the best practice guidance in order to prepare the Annual Governance Statement. The best practice is recognised as the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework: Delivering Good Governance in Local Government (2016), which has been used to prepare this draft Code.

8. **RECOMMENDATION**

8.1 Council is asked to consider and approve the 2019 Code of Corporate Governance.

Background Papers: None
Title
Date
Contact Officer
Previous Minutes/Reports: None