

**Name of meeting: Corporate Governance and Audit Committee**

**Date: 6th March 2020**

**Title of report: Annual review of the Code of Corporate Governance**

**Purpose of report**

**To brief the Committee on the review of the Code of Corporate Governance that has been undertaken by the Monitoring Officer.**

<b>Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Key Decision - Is it in the <a href="#">Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)</a></b>	<b>No</b>
<b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> &amp; name</b>	<b>Yes – Rachel Spencer-Henshall – 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020</b>
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a></b>	<b>Cllr Graham Turner Corporate</b>

**Electoral wards affected: All**

**Ward councillors consulted: None**

**Public or private: Public**

**Have you considered GDPR? Yes**

**1. Summary**

- 1.1 Kirklees has a Code of Corporate Governance, whose purpose is to set out the arrangements by which the Council will ensure effective governance. The code has been drafted with reference to guidelines published by CIPFA and SOLACE.
- 1.2 This code is reviewed periodically and any changes to recommended to this committee.
- 1.3 It was suggested that it should be reviewed in the Annual Statement in 2019.

## **2. Information required to take a decision**

- 2.1 The Kirklees Code was last revised in 2017, following the publication of fresh guidance from CIPFA and SOLACE in 2016. The purpose of the then revision was to incorporate the new recommendations and best practice suggested by the guidelines.
- 2.2 Those guidelines are still current and there is no indication that CIPFA and SOLACE are currently planning to update these.
- 2.3 As a result of this, there have been no major revisions to the Kirklees code. It has been subjected to some formatting changes and reference has now been made to Kirklees' strategic objectives.
- 2.4 A 'track change' copy of the revised code is attached at Appendix 1.

## **3. Implications for the Council**

- 3.1 **Working with People**  
N/A
- 3.2 **Working with Partners**  
  
N/A
- 3.3 **Climate Change and Air Quality**  
N/A
- 3.4 **Place based working**  
N/A
- 3.5 **Improving outcomes for children**  
N/A
- 3.6 **Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**  
  
N/A

## **4. Consultees and their opinions**

- 4.1 The following have been consulted on the contents of this report and have approved them:
  - 4.1.1 The Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning, as Senior Responsible Officer
  - 4.1.2 The Head of Risk

## **5. Next steps and timelines**

- 5.1 To continue with the current annual review of the Code of Corporate Governance.
- 5.2 To check periodically with CIPFA / SOLACE for notice of any intention for the 2016 guidance to be reviewed.

6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**

6.1 That members note the report and recommend that the revised code be adopted.

7. **Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations**

N/A

8. **Contact officers**

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Julie Muscroft [julie.muscroft@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:julie.muscroft@kirklees.gov.uk)  
Service Director - Legal 01484 221000  
Governance & Commissioning

9. **Background Papers and History of Decisions**

CIPFA / SOLACE guidance 'Delivering Good Governance' 2016

10. **Service Director responsible**

Julie Muscroft  
Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning  
01484 221000  
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## **Appendix 1**

### **Track change copy of the revised Code of Corporate Governance**