

REPORT TITLE: Update to Corporate Code of Governance

Meeting:	Corporate Governance and Audit Committee
Date:	21st February 2025
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	Cllr Tyler Hawkins
Key Decision Eligible for Call In	No No
Purpose of Report To seek approval for updates to the Code of Corporate Governance to be recommended to Council.	
Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the suggested updates to the Code of Corporate Governance be recommended to Council Reasons for Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The suggested updates are intended to clarify the Code of Corporate Governance on compliance and performance measurement 	
Resource Implications: None	
Date signed off by Executive Director & name Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance? Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Rachel Spencer-Henshall Kevin Mulvaney Samantha Lawton

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: None

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes

1. Executive 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 the Code are recommended to this committee.
- 1.3 Following an internal audit report, some amendments have been proposed and are highlighted in the attached Appendix.

2. Information required to take a decision

- 2.1 The Kirklees Code was last reviewed in 2020, having been more thoroughly updated in 2017 following the publication of fresh guidance from CIPFA and SOLACE in 2016. The purpose of the 2017 revision was to incorporate the new recommendations and best practice suggested by the guidelines.
- 2.2 The CIPFA and SOLACE guidance is still current, so no detailed amendments have been required.
- 2.3 The general purpose of the amendments is to provide some clarification around how Kirklees measures its performance and demonstrates compliance with the code.
- 2.4 This has been addressed by expanding the table that was in the previous version of the code to include this additional information.
- 2.5 A copy of the revised code which outlines the amended table in red 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 **Place Based Working**
N/A
- 3.4 **Climate Change and Air Quality**

N/A

3.5 **Improving outcomes for children**

N/A

3.6 **Financial Implications for the People Living or Working in Kirklees**

N/A

3.7 **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

4.1.3 The Head of Governance

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 approve the proposed updates to the code.

7. Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations

N/A

8. Contact officers

David Stickley david.stickley@kirklees.gov.uk
Senior Legal Officer 01484 221000

9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

N/A

10. Service Director responsible

Samantha Lawton
Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning
01484 221000

