

**Proposed Amendments to the Council's Corporate Code of Governance  
 (Reference from Corporate Governance and Audit Committee)**

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Annual Council</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> May 2025</b>
<b>Cabinet Member</b> (if applicable)	<b>Cllr Tyler Hawkins</b>
<b>Key Decision Eligible for Call In</b>	<b>No No</b>
<p><b>Purpose of Report</b></p> <p>To seek the approval of the proposed amendments to the council's draft Corporate Code of Governance set out in Appendix 1. The Council's Corporate Governance Audit Committee (CGAC) considered the amendments on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February and has recommended that the proposed amendments set out in red in the report be approved. The report to CGAC is linked within the background papers within this report.</p>	
<p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>That Council:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approves the proposed amendments to the Corporate Code of Governance set out within Appendix 1.</li> </ul> <p><b>Reasons for Recommendations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The purpose of the amendments is to provide clarity and reassurance around compliance and performance measurement.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Resource Implications:</b></p> <p>None</p>	
<b>Date signed off by Executive Director &amp; name</b>	<b>Rachel Spencer-Henshall 17.4.25</b>
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?</b>	<b>Kevin Mulvaney 17.4.25</b>
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?</b>	<b>Samantha Lawton 25.4.25</b>

**Electoral wards affected: All**

**Ward councillors consulted: None**

**Public or private: Public**

**Has GDPR been considered? Yes**

## **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 In line with the guidance of CIPFA and SOLACE, Kirklees has a published Code of Corporate Governance. Its purpose is to set out the arrangements adopted by Kirklees to ensure effective governance.
- 1.2 In line with recommended best practice the Code is reviewed periodically.
- 1.3 A review of the Code took place following an internal audit report and some amendments to the Code have been made.

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

- 2.1 The Kirklees Code was last reviewed in 2020, after having been subject to more extensive revisions in 2017 following the publication of fresh guidance by CIPFA/SOLACE in 2016.
- 2.2 The 2016 CIPFA/SOLACE guidance is still current, so no major revisions to the Code are required.
- 2.3 The purpose of the current amendments is to provide some clarity around how Kirklees measure its performance and how it demonstrates compliance with the Code.
- 2.4 The principal amendment to the Code has been the expansion of the table present in the current version, to include the additional information on compliance.
- 2.5 A copy of the report to CGA linked in Section 9 sets out further details. The full amended version is attached to this report for approval at Appendix 1.

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

### **3.1 Council Plan**

It is important that Kirklees is able to demonstrate that it is capable of monitoring its performance and complying with the Code of Corporate Governance.

### **3.2 Financial Implications**

N/A

### **3.3 Legal Implications**

N/A

### **3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality**

N/A

### **3.5 Other (eg Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)**

N/A

## **4. Consultation**

A number of relevant officers were consulted when the revisions were being drafted. Corporate Governance and Audit committee have considered the amendments and recommend them for approval from Council.

## **5. Engagement**

None

## **6. Options**

### **6.1 Options Considered**

There is an option not to review the Code but this would not be in line with internal audit recommendations or best practice set out in the CIPFA/SOLACE guidance.

### **6.2 Reasons for Recommended Option**

To approve the updated draft Code so it is in accordance with the CIPFA/SOLACE guidance. The Code has been updated to reflect the review and the amendments.

## **7. Next steps and timelines**

Any amendments agreed by Council will be made to the published version of the Code.

## **8. Contact officer**

David Stickley

Principal Lawyer

01484 221 000

[david.stickley@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:david.stickley@kirklees.gov.uk)

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

[summary report template](#) – Report to CGAC 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025

## **10. Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Draft Code of Corporate Governance 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025

## **11. Service Director responsible**

Samantha Lawton

Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning

01484 221000

[samantha.lawton@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:samantha.lawton@kirklees.gov.uk)