

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

Cabinet Meeting: 24 April, 2017

Report of the Leader

Code of Corporate Governance 2017

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the revised Code of Corporate Governance 2017 for consideration, approval and adoption.

Recommendation

1. That Cabinet approve and adopt the revised Code of Corporate Governance as attached at [Appendix A](#).

Reason for the Recommendation

1. To contribute to the Council's robust governance framework.

Background

2. Cabinet has previously approved and adopted a Code of Corporate Governance. The Code was adopted in 2009 and has not been reviewed since.
3. Good governance is about ensuring that the Council does the right things, in the right way, in a timely, open, and accountable manner. It must therefore include systems, processes, cultures and values by which services are directed and controlled, and by which we are accountable to, and engage with, our stakeholders and communities.
4. The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Society of Local Authority of Chief Executives (SOLACE) have provided best practice guidance on establishing a local Code of Corporate Governance: Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework document. The Code should articulate the expected standards, principles and values by which the Vale of Glamorgan council Officers and Members will operate.

Relevant Issues and Options

5. Attached at [Appendix A](#) is the draft Code of Corporate Governance 2017 which has been reviewed by the Council's Corporate Management Team and Insight Board. The Code incorporates the Core Principles and Sub-Principles as set out in the CIPFA/SOLACE publication. In addition it incorporates the principles introduced as a

statutory duty by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, in particular the five ways of working.

6. Good governance enables an authority to pursue its vision effectively as well as underpinning that vision with sound arrangements for control and management of risk.

Resource Implications (Financial and Employment)

7. Good governance leads to good management, good performance and good stewardship of public money, good public engagement and ultimately good outcomes for citizens and service users. However, there are costs associated with embedding and continuing good governance practices, which are met within existing budgets.

Sustainability and Climate Change Implications

8. None directly from this report.

Legal Implications (to Include Human Rights Implications)

9. 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 guidance is recognised as the CIPFA/SOLACE: Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework 2016.

Crime and Disorder Implications

10. None directly from this report.

Equal Opportunities Implications (to include Welsh Language issues)

11. None as a direct result of this report

Corporate/Service Objectives

12. Good Governance is fundamental in assisting in the achievement of all corporate and service objectives.

Policy Framework and Budget

13. This is a matter for Executive decision by Cabinet.

Consultation (including Ward Member Consultation)

14. No further consultation is proposed.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee

15. Corporate Performance and Resources

Background Papers

None

Contact Officer

Helen Smith - Operational Manager - Audit

Officers Consulted

External Audit

Responsible Officer:

Rob Thomas - Managing Director