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| Is this report confidential? | No  |

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| **Report of** | **Meeting** | **Date** |
| Director of Governance (Monitoring Officer) | Governance Committee | Tuesday, 29 March 2022 |

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| Is this decision key? | Not applicable |

# Local Code of Corporate Governance

# Purpose of the Report

1. To update members on the outcome of a review of the Local Code of Corporate Governance.

## Recommendations to Governance Committee

1. For members to approve the Local Code of Corporate Governance at Appendices A and B to this report.

## Reasons for recommendations

1. It is good practice to have a Local Code of Corporate Governance which enables an improved understanding for members, officers and the public of how the Council discharges its obligations and functions.

## Other options considered and rejected

1. The Council could choose not to have a local code. This would be lawful but is not recommended practice and the benefits of having a code would be lost.

## Executive summary

1. This is only necessary for reports of longer than 4 sides and should include detail on HR and customer service implications of the decision.

## Corporate priorities

1. The report relates to the following corporate priorities: (please bold all those applicable):

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| **An exemplary council** | Thriving communities |
| A fair local economy that works for everyone | Good homes, green spaces, healthy places |

## Background to the report

1. The Council have adopted a Local Code of Corporate Governance. This is compliant with CIPFA Guidance and follows best practice. The Local Code sets out how the Council delivers its Corporate Governance Framework and explains how it operates.
2. The Local Code should be reviewed frequently to ensure it is up to date and reflects the current framework. If the Local Code is incorrect, members, officers and the public would be misled as to how the council operates, significantly undermining the trust and confidence in the organisation and transparency in operation.

## Changes

1. A number of policy families have been updated in the last 12 months and this is reflected in the tables. However, it should be acknowledged that the vast majority remain current and unchanged.
2. Specific to this Local Code there have been presentational changes this year. The table of interrelationships between principles, statutory obligations and corporate objectives and supporting documents and processes has been brought forward into the body of the document. Although a small change it assists by providing a clear graphical representation of the relationships between the different elements.
3. The evidence tables, which provide the detail have been moved into the appendix, to be used as reference.

## Climate change and air quality

1. The work noted in this report does not impact the climate change and sustainability targets of the Councils Green Agenda and all environmental considerations are in place.

## Risk

## There are no risks identified save that if the Code incorrectly references documents this will mislead the public and users of the local code. This has been mitigated by sharing the document with stakeholders to check.

## Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

1. No comments.

## Comments of the Monitoring Officer

1. No comments, the report addresses any issues I may raise.

## Appendices

Appendix A Local Code of Corporate Governance

Appendix B Appendix A to the Local Code

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| Report Author: | Email: | Telephone: | Date: |
| Chris Moister (Director of Governance) | chris.moister@southribble.gov.uk | 01772 62xxxx |  |