

17 DECEMBER 2013

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL AND MONITORING OFFICER**REVIEW OF ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING POLICY****EXEMPT INFORMATION**

None

PURPOSE

This report provides the Council with the revised and updated Anti-Money Laundering Policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To adopt the revised Anti-Money Laundering Policy in the Council's policy framework as approved by Audit & Governance Committee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**Review of Anti-Money Laundering Policy**

The Council is committed to high standards of Ethical and Corporate Governance which give a high organisational commitment to zero tolerance to fraud, corruption and bribery.

The revised Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy and Whistleblowing Policy are also under review as part of an internal audit on fraud awareness, and reports on updating these policies were along with the Anti-Money Laundering Policy, submitted to Audit and Governance Committee on 31 October 2013 for approval and are now being presented to full Council for adoption. The opportunity has been taken to update all three policies at this stage. As a result of the review the policies will be fit for purpose and ensure high standards of corporate governance of the Council's affairs. The Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy and Whistleblowing Policy policies have been presented to the unions and reported to Appointments and Staffing Committee on 11 December 2013 to comply with employment regulations. The Anti-Money Laundering Policy will be passed to the unions for information purposes.

Training sessions will be carried out for all staff and members on Anti-Money Laundering requirements through the Council net-consent facility.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There will be no resource implications. Any amendments to the Council's policies will be placed on the Council's website and included as required in the Constitution.

LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS BACKGROUND

There are no Financial, Equality, Diversity and Human Rights, Consultation, Community Safety, Health and Safety and Risk Management Implications other than mentioned in the executive summary.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

None.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Background

Governance is about how the Council ensures that it is doing the right things, in the right way, for the right people, in a timely, inclusive, open, honest and accountable manner. It comprises the systems and processes, and cultures and values, by which such bodies are directed and controlled and through which they account to, engage with and, where appropriate, lead their communities.

The Council strives to meet the highest standards of corporate governance to help ensure it meets its objectives. Members and Officers are responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of the Council's affairs and the stewardship of the resources at its disposal.

The Council's Ethical Governance arrangements are a key part of good Corporate Governance and important component parts of this are the Council's Anti-Money Laundering Policy as well as the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy and the Whistleblowing Policy. The policies are subject to regular review to ensure that they remain fit for purpose. The Audit & Governance Committee reviewed the Anti-Money Laundering Policy, the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy and the Whistleblowing Policy at its meeting on 31 October 2013. The Council is now asked to adopt its Anti-Money Laundering Policy.

Governance forms parts of the Council's commitment to customer excellence which underpins the Council's Strategic Plan and vision.

REPORT AUTHOR

Jane M Hackett Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer Tel: 709258 if you would like further information or clarification prior to the meeting.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

APPENDICES

Draft Policy – Attached (Appendix 1)

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