



**AGENDA ITEM: 9**

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE:  
17 SEPTEMBER 2015**

**AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE  
COMMITTEE: 29 SEPTEMBER 2015**

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**Report of: Managing Director People and Places, Borough Treasurer and  
Borough Solicitor**

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**SUBJECT: FRAMEWORK FOR DELIVERING GOOD GOVERNANCE IN LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT**

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Wards affected: Borough wide.

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To advise Members of the consultation currently being undertaken by the CIPFA/SOLACE Joint Working Group on Good Governance in Local Government (the Working Group) on a revised framework for delivering good governance in local government.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

2.1 That the consultation on the revised draft 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: a Framework' by the CIPFA/SOLACE Joint Working Group, attached at Appendix 1, be noted.

2.2 That the response, attached at Appendix 2, be agreed at the meeting as the Councils response to the document.

**3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

3.1 That the Standards Committee's decision at Appendix 3, be noted.

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## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Lawyers in Local Government (LLG) recently advised that the Working Group, on which the LLG is represented, were consulting on a revised draft 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: a Framework' (the Framework) for consultation, attached at Appendix 1, and requested that this be taken to audit/standards committees, as appropriate.
- 4.2 The Audit and Governance Committee is not due to meet until 29 September after the consultation deadline (28 September 2015).

## **5.0 FRAMEWORK FOR DELIVERING GOOD GOVERNANCE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

- 5.1 The Working Group writes "The main principle underpinning the development of a new Framework continues to be that local government is developing and shaping its own approach to governance, taking account of the environment in which it now operates.
- 5.2 The Framework builds on the *International Framework: Good Governance in the Public Sector (CIPFA/IFAC 2014)*. The *International Framework* places sustainable economic, societal and environmental outcomes as a key focus for governance processes and structures. It emphasises the importance of considering the longer term and the links between governance and public financial management – all key considerations for local authorities in today's climate.

## **6.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS/COMMUNITY STRATEGY**

- 6.1 Promoting and maintaining good practice in governance promotes high ethical Standards and contributes to achievement of the Council's objectives. There are no significant sustainability impacts.

## **7.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no significant resource implications arising from this report.

## **8.0 RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 8.1 There are no risks to the Council's business objectives arising from this consultation. Reviewing best practice in governance contributes to the maintenance of effective risk management procedures in the Council.

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### **Background Documents**

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees and / or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: a Framework – Consultation July 2015.

Appendix 2: Response of the Council (*to the above consultation document*)

Appendix 3: Minute of the Standards Committee 17 September 2015 (Audit and Governance Committee only) – *to follow*