



**AGENDA ITEM: 9**

**AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:  
22 March 2016**

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**Report of: Borough Treasurer**

**Contact for further information: Marc Taylor (Extn. 5092)  
(E-mail: marc.taylor@westlancs.gov.uk)**

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**SUBJECT: LOCAL CODE OF GOVERNANCE 2016**

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Wards affected: Borough wide

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To set out the results of the annual review of the Council's Local Code of Governance.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 That the Local Code of Governance for 2016/17, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, be approved.

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**3.0 BACKGROUND**

3.1 In order to comply with best practice for producing the Annual Governance Statement, as set out in the CIPFA Solace publication "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework", it is necessary to have in place a Local Code of Governance. The Local Code identifies the Governance framework of the Authority against which it can be reviewed each year.

3.2 The terms of reference of this Committee include responsibility for approving the Council's Annual Local Code of Governance. The annual review of the Code has now been completed to ensure that it is accurate and up to date.

#### **4.0 CURRENT POSITION**

- 4.1 The Code was last amended in 2014. Since that time a new Council vision, values and priorities have been developed and the Code has been amended accordingly and a tracked change version has been attached at Appendix 1. A new management structure is also now in place and the necessary amendments have been made to the Code to reflect this change.

#### **5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS/COMMUNITY STRATEGY**

- 5.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder. The report has no significant links with the Sustainable Community Strategy.

#### **6.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 All the activity referred to in this report is covered by existing budget provisions.

#### **7.0 RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 The maintenance of a Local Code of Governance is necessary to demonstrate compliance with the Council's statutory duty under the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

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#### **Background Documents**

CIPFA Solace "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework"

#### **Equality Impact Assessment**

The decision does not have a direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and/or stakeholders. Therefore no equality impact assessment is required.

#### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Local Code of Governance – updated March 2016