

LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Meeting to be held on 30 March 2017

CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

(Appendix 1 refers)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

The Authority's Code of Corporate Governance has been updated based on CIPFA/SOLACE updated guidance.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to agree the revised Code of Corporate Governance as attached.

Background

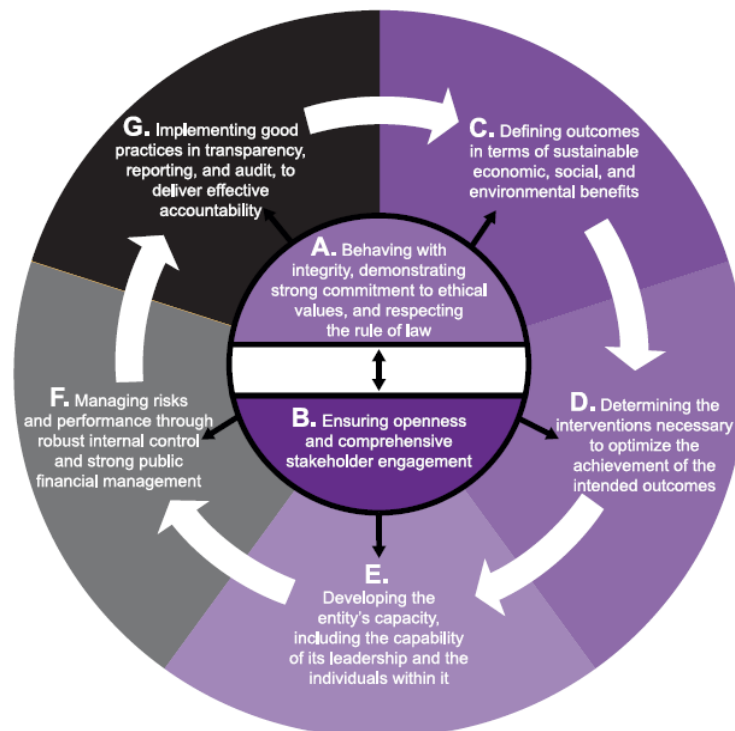
Corporate Governance is the way an authority ensures that it is doing the right things, in the right way, for the right people, in a timely, inclusive, open, honest and accountable manner.

It comprises the systems and processes, and cultures and values by which the Authority are directed and controlled and through which they account to, engage with, and, where appropriate, lead their communities.

In April 2016, CIPFA issued its latest revision of "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government" and stated "that it is up to each local authority or local government organisation to:

- set out its commitment to the principles of good governance included in this Framework;
- determine its own governance structure, or local code, underpinned by these principles;
- ensure that it operates effectively in practice.

The seven core principles of the 2016 Framework are set out in the diagram below:-



(International Framework: Good Governance in the Public Sector (CIPFA/IFAC, 2014).

This revised framework will provide the benchmark against which the Annual Governance (Assurance) Statement is prepared for the financial year 2016/2017 onwards.

A revised Local Code of Corporate Governance is attached as appendix 1. Columns 1 and 2 reflect the local code elements setting out the sub principles of the revised code and the expected behaviours and actions that demonstrate good governance in practice. Column 3 sets out the evidence of how the Authority complies with each of these.

The overall aim of the Local Code is to ensure that resources are directed in accordance with agreed policy and according to priorities, that there is sound and inclusive decision making and that there is clear accountability for the use of those resources in order to achieve desired outcomes for service users and communities.

Financial Implications

None

Human Resource Implications

None

Equality and Diversity Implications

None

Environmental Impact

None

Business Risk Implications

The framework and guidance in relation to the Annual Governance Statement and the production of a Code of Corporate Governance form a key element of the Authorities overall assessment of how well it is managing its business risks. The adoption of the changes will enhance our overall business risk management arrangements.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact
Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework 2016	April 2016	Keith Mattinson, Director of Corporate Services, 01772 866804
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate:		