

North East Derbyshire District Council

Standards Committee

27 July 2023

Code of Corporate Governance

Report of the Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

Classification: This report is public

Report By: The Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer)

Contact Officer: Sarah Sternberg sarah.sternberg@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk and Ext 7731

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

To present to Members of the Standards Committee the 2023 Code of Corporate Governance which is a part of the Annual Governance Statement the Council is required to produce with the Accounts each year.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Members consider and comment upon the Code of Corporate Governance.
2. That any comments are passed to the Audit Committee for inclusion in the Code of Corporate Governance which accompanies the Annual Governance Statement.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder – N/A

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

As in the report

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details:

As in the report

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No
Details:

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

Decision Information	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	No
Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
District Wards Significantly Affected	None directly
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes Details: Audit Committee approves the final version

Links to Council Plan (NED) priorities, including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.
No direct links but important in achieving all the Council's aims.

REPORT DETAILS

- 1 **Background** *(reasons for bringing the report)*
 - 1.1 The purpose of the Code of Corporate Governance is included in the Code itself. This is stated at point 1 of the Introduction to the Code as being:

 “The purpose of this Code is to state the importance to the Council of good corporate governance and to set out the Council’s commitment to the principles involved.”
 - 1.2 The first section of the Code deals with the importance of good corporate governance.
 - 1.3 The format of the Code is that the items listed on the left in the table are those items the Council is required to provide evidence for. The Council has no choice about the items in the left hand column.

- 1.4 The version you have attached to this report is slightly amended version from last year's version of the Code. Each year there is a review to update the Code, add or remove items as things change. A major review, as you can see from the Code will be carried out in 2025. However, it is important that annually the Code is reviewed in this way.
- 1.5 The Code was not brought to Standards Committee for consideration before 2022. The Section 151 Officer and I believe that this should happen each year as a part of the monitoring process and that Standards Committee should pass an opinion. The Audit Committee will also consider it as a part of their consideration of the Annual Governance Statement (the AGS). This will be in September 2023 subject to the approval of the Meeting Schedule by Council on 31 July 2023.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1 The draft Code as modified is attached and covers all aspects of the governance framework.
- 2.2 Any comments from the Standards Committee will be passed on to the Audit Committee at the September meeting.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 In order that Standards Committee may give an opinion on the contents of the Code.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 There are no alternatives. It is appropriate that the Standards Committee consider the draft Code of Corporate Governance.
- 4.2 Standards Committee considering the contents of the Code of Corporate Governance in advance of its approval is good practice.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	Draft Code of Corporate Governance
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet you must provide copies of the background papers)	
None	