



**REPORT of  
DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES**

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**to  
FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE  
14 JUNE 2016**

**ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To report to the Committee on the Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure and on any complaints made under the Policy for 2015 / 16.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the content of this report be noted.

**3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1 The Council's revised Whistle-Blowing Policy was adopted by Council on 9 May 2013. This policy was made under the provisions of the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998, and makes provisions for internal confidential disclosure of allegations of malpractice. The legislation provides protection for workers who raise legitimate concerns in good faith where the worker has a reasonable belief that any of the following is being, has been, or is likely to be committed:

- A criminal offence;
- A miscarriage of justice;
- An act creating risk to health and safety;
- An act causing damage to the environment;
- A breach of any other legal obligation; or
- Concealment of any of the above

- 3.2 The Legal and Democratic Services Manager (as the Council's Monitoring Officer) is designated the "Whistleblowing Officer" to whom complaints may be made on a confidential basis.

- 3.3 The Committee should note that no complaints were made under the Whistleblowing Policy for the year 2015 / 16.

- 3.4 The Monitoring Officer is satisfied the Policy remains robust; however a full review and update to the current iteration will be undertaken during the 2016/17 municipal year to ensure that it remains current and live to emerging matters.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 The whistleblowing policy and procedure needs to be kept up to date on a periodic basis to reflect the Council's structure and any other necessary legislative amendments.

#### **5. IMPACT ON CORPORATE GOALS**

- 5.1 The maintenance of proper systems of internal control contributes to our Corporate Goal "Delivering good quality, cost effective and valuable services".

#### **6. IMPLICATIONS**

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – None.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – None.
- (iv) **Impact on resources (financial)** – None.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – None.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – None.

Background Papers: Whistleblowing Policy.

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