



**REPORT of  
DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES**

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**to  
PERFORMANCE, GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE  
10 JUNE 2021**

**ANNUAL REPORT ON WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To give an annual update to the Committee

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

(i) To consider the report

**3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES**

3.1 The purpose of the Policy is to provide a procedure for employees to disclose any concerns about malpractice by any colleague or councillor. The “whistle-blower” is assured that there will be no discrimination or discipline against her / him providing the concern is honestly held. The policy was reviewed in 2018 and so is up-to-date.

3.2 Malpractice would include a criminal offence, fraud or corruption, damage to the environment, safeguarding concerns, negligence, theft or misuse of public money or failure to follow the Council’s finance, contract or other rules.

3.3 In practice this will cover matters such as unauthorised use of public funds; unauthorised disclosure of confidential information; physical and sexual abuse; health and safety risks to both staff and members of the public; and the acceptance of bribes. However, these are only examples of the types of conduct that are likely to fall within the relevant types of wrong doing, and this is not an exhaustive list.

3.4 During the last municipal year there have been no “whistle-blower” concerns registered with the Section 151 Officer (Chris Leslie), the Head of Paid Service (Richard Holmes) or the Monitoring Officer (Simon Quelch) or concerns about the adequacy of the policy.

**4. CONCLUSION**

4.1 It is an encouraging sign that no whistleblowing matters have been raised

**5. IMPACT ON STRATEGIC THEMES**

5.1 None

## 6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – None
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – Positive
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – None
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – None
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – None
- (vii) **Impact on Strengthening Communities** - None

Background Papers: None

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