

**GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE****4 APRIL 2017****REPORT OF MONITORING OFFICER  
LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE.****1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 The Committee is requested to consider the Local Code of Corporate Governance.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 To consider and approve the Local Code of Corporate Governance attached at Appendix A

**3.0 KEY ISSUES**

3.1 Local authorities are required to prepare and adopt a local code of Corporate Governance that complies with the CIPFA/SOLACE framework. CIPFA/SOLACE reviewed the framework in 2016. Local authorities have responsibilities to more than their current electors as they must take account of the impact of current decisions and actions on future generations

3.2 The Code of Corporate Governance attached at Appendix A is in line with the new framework. The framework is considered best practice, "*to be followed as best practice for developing and maintaining a local code of governance and making adopted practices open and explicit*".

3.3 The term 'local code' essentially refers to the governance structure in place as there is an expectation that a formally set out local structure should exist.

3.4 At the end of each financial year, the Council formally reviews the governance arrangements in place and produces an Annual Governance Statement (AGS). The AGS provides summarised details of the assurances and evidence that is in place in order to demonstrate compliance with the local code of corporate governance. The AGS is the Council's 'statement' over the effectiveness of the framework. The AGS addresses any actions arising from the previous years AGS and highlights any actions arising from the year being reviewed. The AGS must comply with the Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance.

**4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 This is a requirement under the cipfa/solace framework and will have implications for the governance arrangements of the Council .

**5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Any financial and resource implications will be met from existing resources.

**6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS**

6.1 This is required under the cipfa/solace framework and will be an area that will be considered by internal and external audit and the Council's annual assurance process.

7.0 **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

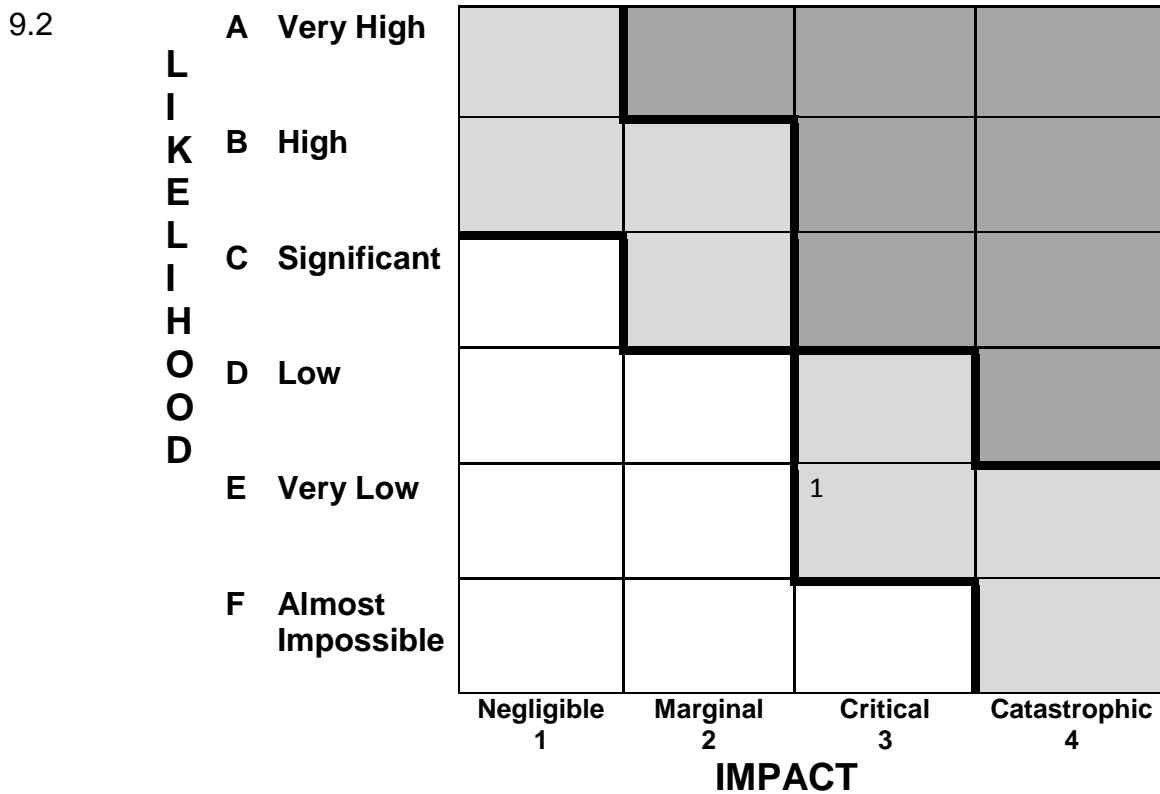
7.1 There are no community safety implications relating to this report.

8.0 **EQUALITIES**

8.1 An Equalities Screening Assessment has drafted and no adverse findings have been identified.

9.0 **RISKS**

9.1 The risks associated with the report are considered to relate to following legal and constitutional procedures in decision-making.



Risk No	Risk Description
1	Not adopting a local code of Corporate Governance and therefore not comply with cifpa/solace guidelines and not having appropriate governance arrangements in place.

10.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE**

10.1 There are no implications for climate change resulting from this report.

11.0 **CONSULTATION**

11.1 There is regular internal consultation with Corporate Governance Group (Head of Paid service, Section 151 officer, Solicitor to the Council), internal audit and Management Team.

12.0 **WARDS AFFECTED**

12.1 All wards are indirectly affected by this report.

Contact Officer      Angela Roberts  
Date:                    March 2017

Appendices :        Appendix A –Local Code of Corporate Governance

Background Papers:    Cipfa/solace framework.

Reference :            X : Committees\Governance\2016 17\ 040417\local code of corporate governance