

REPORT TO FINAL ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

29TH JUNE 2006

WHISTLE-BLOWING POLICY

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. To present to the Final Accounts and Audit Committee the draft Whistle-blowing policy for approval (attached as Appendix 1).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the draft Whistle-blowing policy is approved.

3. Links to the Corporate Business Plan

- 3.1. Effective financial management underpins the delivery of all the Council's work.

4. General Background Information

- 4.1. The Council is required to review its Whistle-blowing policy on an annual basis.
- 4.2. The Internal Audit Manager has reviewed the policy to ensure it reflects current Best Practice in the way to address issues of whistle-blowing. It has been updated to include changes in the Management structure of the organisation, and reflect the return of Internal Audit as an in-house function.
- 4.3. Comments were also invited from Union representatives.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1. None.

6. Community & Environmental Implications

- 6.1. None.

7. Equal Opportunities Implications

- 7.1. None.

8. Human Resources Implications

- 8.1. None.

9. Documentation used in the preparation of this report

- 9.1. Background papers

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