



Council

26 July 2022

Title	Referral from Audit Committee – Code of Corporate Governance 2022-23
Report of	Chair of the Audit Committee
Wards	Not applicable
Status	Public
Enclosures	Appendix A – Code of Corporate Governance 2022-23
Officer Contact Details	Clair Green, Executive Director of Assurance clair.green@barnet.gov.uk

Summary

A Code of Corporate Governance is reported alongside the AGS which has been prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework 2016. This includes the principle and sub-principles of good governance and how the council complies with them. The Code of Corporate Governance was reported to the Audit Committee to comment and note on the 16th June 2022. Full Council is requested to approve the code for incorporation into the Council's Constitution.

The Constitution, Article 4 The Full Council, includes the following within its terms of reference:

“Adopting and changing the Constitution (unless delegated)”

Officers Recommendation

That Council note and approve the Code of Corporate Governance 2022-23 as set out in Appendix 1, for incorporation into the Constitution.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 At its meeting on the 16th June 2021, the Audit Committee noted the Code of Corporate Governance which was presented alongside the Annual Governance Statement. The code of corporate governance is incorporated into the Council's Constitution, any adoptions, or changes to the constitution, sit within the terms of reference of Full Council to approve.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Full Council is requested to approve the code for incorporation into the Council's Constitution. Any adoptions, or changes to the constitution, sit within the terms of reference of Full Council to approve.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 N/A.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 The Code of Corporate Governance within the Council's Constitution will be updated and published to the Council's website.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 Barnet Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Council also has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.1 N/A

5.3 Social Value

- 5.3.1 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2013 requires people who commission public services to think about how they can also secure wider social, economic and environmental benefits.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

5.4.1 There are no legal issues in the context of this report.

5.4.2 The Council's Constitution, article 4, outlines that any adoptions of changes to the Council's Constitution must be approved by Full Council, unless delegated.

5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 N/A

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.6.1 Effective systems of audit, internal control and corporate governance provide assurance on compliance with laws, regulation, internal policies and procedures, including compliance with the Council's duties under the 2010 Equalities Act

5.7 Corporate Parenting

5.7.1 N/A

5.8 Consultation and Engagement

5.8.1 N/A.

5.9 Insight

5.9.1 N/A

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 Audit Committee 16th June 2022 - Annual Governance Statement report
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s72949/Annual%20Governance%20Statement%20202122%20and%20Code%20of%20Corporate%20Governance%20202223.pdf>