



Audit & Governance Committee  
12 March 2025

## Code of Corporate Governance

### Purpose of the report:

This report provides the Committee with an update on the council's Code of Corporate Governance.

### Recommendations:

The Committee is asked to approve the updated Code of Corporate Governance (Annex 1) and commend it to the County Council for inclusion into the Constitution.

### Code of Corporate Governance

1. The Local Government Act 2000 places a reliance on local authorities to review their governance arrangements and operate through a local governance framework, which brings together requirements, governance principles and processes.
2. Surrey County Council's Code of Corporate Governance meets those requirements by outlining the council's commitment to good governance and providing a robust framework of policies and procedures that underpin compliance with the governance principles. It also sets out the mechanisms for monitoring and reviewing the corporate governance arrangements.
3. A review of the Code of Corporate Governance has been undertaken to ensure that it is fit for purpose and reflects the council's approach and commitment to good governance. Minor updates have been made to reflect organisational changes.
4. The Code of Corporate Governance has been reviewed by the Governance Panel, Resources Directorate Leadership Team and the Corporate Leadership Team and their comments have been incorporated.

**Financial and value for money implications:**

5. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Continued improvements in governance will support the delivery of the council's objectives.

**Equalities and Diversity Implications:**

6. There are no direct equalities implications of this report.

**Risk Management Implications:**

7. Strong governance arrangements support the council in the effective delivery of services and achievement of objectives.

**Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer:**

8. There are no direct legal implications of this report.

**Next steps:**

9. The Code of Corporate Governance will be presented to County Council for inclusion into the Constitution.

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**Sources/background papers:**

Code of Corporate Governance, CIPFA/SOLACE framework for *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government*.

**Annexes/Appendices:**

- Annex 1 – Code of Corporate Governance
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