

To: Chair and Members of the Police Authority Executive

Date: 4th June 2009

Executive Officer: Chief Executive Joe McCarthy
Author: Norman Wright Status: For Decision

Cleveland Police Authority – Revised Code of Corporate Governance

1. Purpose of the report

2. To seek approval for the revised Code of Corporate Governance.

3. Recommendations

4. Members agree the revised Code of Corporate Governance (Appendix A - disc). This document was considered and recommended for approval by the Audit and Internal Control Panel at its meeting on 28th May 2009.
5. Members note that the main changes to the Code, other than minor amendments to wording, are as follows:-
 - 5.1. The most fundamental change is to the Panel structure and the terms of reference (Appendix D of the Code).
 - 5.1.1 The new Operational Policing Panel, effective from 1st June 2009, takes over the remits of the Community Protection Panel and the Strategic Policing and Performance Panel. This new Panel now encompasses all aspects of operational policing from the formulation of policies and strategies through to the reporting of results.
 - 5.1.2 The new Human Resources and Diversity Panel, effective from 1st June 2009, allows a clearer focus on human resources issues and will drive necessary improvements in this area – this will include the continued drive to modernise the workforce and to

embed policies to support equality and diversity.

- 5.1.3 Appendix D of the Code (Terms of Reference for Panels) now includes the terms of reference for the Strategic Procurement and Major Projects Panel, which was established at the AGM in June 2008.
- 5.2 Another important change is the revised set of Contract Standing Orders which are included in Appendix G of the Code. These standing orders were approved by the Audit and Internal Control Panel at its March 2009 meeting.
- 5.3 A minor amendment to Appendix G of the Code (Financial Standing Orders) to change a reference from “best value” to “value for money” as being a more appropriate phrase.
- 5.4 Section 2.3 of the Code (Statutory Role of the Police Authority) has been amended with extra details of duties and responsibilities in order to bring greater clarity. For example, details from the Police and Crime Act 2009 on collaboration agreements, “having regard to the views” of local people about policing, and scrutiny of CDRPs via council overview and scrutiny committees.
- 5.5 Appendix C of the Code (Police Authority Delegations) has been updated; for instance, to include new pension scheme delegations.
- 5.6. Appendix F of the Code (Standing Orders for Corporate Governance) has been created to separately specify the arrangements for managing the Code. This appendix also includes arrangements concerning the annual review of governance arrangements, partnerships, risk management and changes to the Panels’ terms of reference. Please note that most of this information was previously outlined in the main body of the Code.

The above changes to the Code have been highlighted in blue text in the document (Appendix A -disc)

6. Reasons

7. The new style Code of Corporate Governance was accepted by the Police Authority at its meeting in December 2007, becoming effective from 1st January 2008. It was agreed that there would be an annual review of the Code, which would be brought to Members for approval. Since the last update in June 2008 there have been important changes to the working document and therefore it is an opportune time to bring these to the attention of Members and seek approval for their inclusion within the Code.

8. Implications

9. Finance

10. The Code contains the Financial and Contract Standing Orders.

11. Diversity and equal Opportunities

12. There are no direct diversity and equal opportunities implications arising out of this report.

13. Sustainability

14. The Code will be reviewed annually and updated, as required, to take account of legislation and changes to policy and procedures.

15. Risk Assessment

16. By revising and updating the Code of Corporate Governance, the Police Authority will help ensure that it continues to meet its legal obligations.

17. Conclusions

18. The Code of Corporate Governance has been updated in a timely manner in line with agreed procedures.

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