

By: Geoff Wild – Director of Governance and Law  
To: Standards Committee – 17 November 2011  
Subject: BRIBERY ACT POLICY  
Classification: Unrestricted

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**Summary:** This report invites the Standards Committee to comment on the draft Bribery Act Policy and agree to reference to it being made in the Code of Conduct for Members and also to note that the policy itself will be reviewed by the Governance and Audit Committee and Selection and Member Services Committee prior to being recommended to the County Council for formal adoption into the Council's Constitution.

## **FOR DECISION**

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### **Introduction and Background**

1. The Bribery Act 2010 came into force on 1 July 2011. The Act modernises the law on bribery. The Act represents a significant change from the current law and places obligations on the Council to ensure that it has adequate procedures in place. The Council's Governance and Audit Committee has been provided with a full briefing on the proposed policy at a previous meeting and will consider the proposed policy at its meeting on 29 November 2011.

### **Bribery Act Policy**

2. The proposed Bribery Act Policy (attached as **Appendix 1**) has been prepared to ensure the Council complies with the Act. The policy explains the process through which the Council intends to maintain its high standards and protect its employees, Members and business partners against any allegations of bribery and corruption.

### **Amendments to the Code of Conduct for Members**

3. With the introduction of the Bribery Act 2010 and the associated policy, it is appropriate that the Code of Conduct for Members be amended. The changes suggested are minor and reflect the need for Members to adhere to the Council's policy. The proposed amendment to paragraph 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members is shown in bold and underlined text at **Appendix 2**.

### **Recommendations**

4. The Standards Committee is invited to make comments on the draft Bribery Act Policy and to agree to reference being made to it in the Code of Conduct for Members, as detailed in **Appendix 2**, once the Policy has been formally adopted by the County Council.

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