

By: Roger Gough – Cabinet Member for Business Strategy,
Performance and Health Reform
Geoff Wild – Director of Governance and Law
To: Governance and Audit Committee – 29th November 2011
Subject: BRIBERY ACT POLICY
Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report provides the Governance and Audit Committee the opportunity to review the Bribery Act Policy and associated amendments to the Council's constitution.

FOR DECISION

Introduction and Background

1. The Bribery Act 2010 came into force on the 1st 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 Committee were provided a full briefing at the previous Governance and Audit Committee.

Bribery Act Policy

2. The Bribery Act Policy 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 Constitution

3. With the introduction of the Bribery Act 2010 and the associated policy it is appropriate that the Council's constitution be amended. The changes suggested are minor and reflect the need for employees and Members to adhere to the Council's policy.
4. The Standards Committee considered this report at its meeting on 17 November 2011 and agreed to recommend it to the County Council for adoption subject to any amendments this Committee may make.

Recommendations

5. Members of the committee are asked to:
 - Recommend to the County Council that, together with the consequential changes to the constitution, the Bribery Act Policy be approved.

Geoff Wild
Director of Governance and Law
01622 694302