



Report of: Corporate Director of Resources

Meeting of:	Date:	Ward(s):
Audit Committee	27 June 2019	n/a

Delete as appropriate	Non-exempt	
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THE APPENDIX TO THIS REPORT IS NOT FOR PUBLICATION

The appendix to this report is exempt and not for publication as it contains the following category of exempt information as specified in Paragraph 3, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, namely: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).



SUBJECT: WHISTLEBLOWING COMPLAINT UPDATE

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 This report is to provide an update to the committee on the progress of a whistleblowing complaint initially considered at the meeting on 15 January 2019.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To consider the options available to the Committee and the implications for the Council and the complainant.
- 2.2 To ensure that the most appropriate and reasonable outcome is achieved for the complainant and the Council.
- 2.3 To authorise the Acting Director of Law and Governance to take the actions outlined in the exempt appendix.

3. Background

- 3.1 Whistleblowing arrangements are a key element of the Council's overall governance arrangements. Whistleblowing allows employees, members, contractors and others, to confidentially raise concerns surrounding fraud and corruption.
- 3.2 The Council takes all allegations of impropriety very seriously. An external investigation is currently ongoing into this complaint.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial implications:

This information is contained within the exempt appendix. The Council's s151 officer is satisfied that the costs can be contained within the Council's budget.

4.2 Legal Implications:

External counsel's advice on the matter is that the actions proposed in the exempt appendix are appropriate.

4.3 Environmental Implications

None arising from the content of this report.

4.4 Resident Impact Assessment:

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

A Resident Impact Assessment has not been completed because the decision currently being sought does not have direct impacts on residents.

5. Reason for recommendations

- 5.1 To ensure that the most appropriate and reasonable outcome is achieved for the complainant and the Council.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Whistleblowing Update (Exempt)

Final report clearance:

Signed by:

Corporate Director of Resources

Date

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