



Report of: Acting S151 Officer

| Meeting of: | Date: | Ward(s): |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Audit Committee | 28 th January 2020 | n/a |

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| Delete as appropriate | Exempt (Appendix) | |
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THE APPENDIX TO THIS REPORT IS NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Part of the report is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act (1972).



SUBJECT: OUTCOME OF EXTERNAL INVESTIGATION

1. Synopsis

- 1.1. A series of whistleblowing complaints were received and, in June 2019, Committee approved the appointment of external investigators to conduct an independent investigation.
- 1.2. This report presents the outcome of the investigation.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Audit Committee is asked to note the report.

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 and in this instance appointed an external investigator to ensure that an independent investigation was undertaken.

4. Implications

4.1. Financial implications

The Council's s151 officer is satisfied that the costs were contained within the Council's budget.

4.2. Legal Implications

There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

4.3. Environmental implications

There are no known environmental implications arising from the recommendations in 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

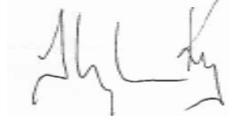
- 5.1 To note outcomes of the external investigation at Appendix 1.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Outcome of external investigation (Exempt)

Final report clearance:

Signed by:



Acting S151 Officer

Date 16/01/2020

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