

Audit and Governance Committee



Date of meeting:	12 March 2024
Title of Report:	Whistleblowing Policy - Review
Lead Strategic Director:	David Northey (Service Director for Finance)
Author:	Ross Jago (Head of Governance, Performance and Risk)
Contact Email:	ross.jago@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

The whistleblowing policy was updated in 2023, since then no further changes have been made and the policy is presented to Audit and Governance Committee for noting.

Recommendations and Reasons

That Committee note the appended Whistleblowing Policy.

Reasons:

To ensure that the policy reflects best practice and is clear as to its application. The policy is based on specific statutory legislative protection for employees and is clear as to the extent to which aspects of it applied solely to employees as opposed to other persons.

Alternative options considered and rejected

None. The Authority needs to maintain and promote the Whistleblowing Policy to comply with best practice and to ensure a high level of awareness of, and confidence in, the Council's whistleblowing arrangements

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The Whistleblowing Policy supports the Council's values through the promotion of good governance and can play an important role in deterring and detecting malpractice, maintaining public trust and, delivering the Council's ambitions to being democratic, responsible and fair.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

None.

Financial Risks

None.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

None.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

None.

Appendices

*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Whistleblowing Policy							

Background papers:

*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Audit Governance Report – Whistleblowing Policy							

Sign off:

Fin	DJN. 23.24. 214	Leg	LS/29 60(7)/ JP/11 0324	Mon Off	N/A	HR	N/A	Asset s	N/A	Strat Proc	N/A
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: David Northey											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 08/03/2024											