

**To: Audit, Scrutiny and Petitions Board**

**On: 20 March 2017**

---

**Report by: Chief Auditor**

---

**Heading: Compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance**

---

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1. Corporate Governance is the system by which local authorities direct and control their functions and relate to their communities. The Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance came into effect formally on 1 April 2002.
  - 1.2. The Director of Finance and Resources has responsibility for reporting annually to the Audit, Scrutiny and Petitions Board on compliance with the Code and any changes to the Code that may be necessary to maintain it and ensure its effectiveness in practice. In addition, the Council's Chief Auditor has responsibility to review independently and report to the Audit, Scrutiny and Petitions Board annually, to provide assurance on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Code and the extent of compliance with it.
  - 1.3. Internal Audit has reviewed the adequacy and effectiveness of the Code which was operational during 2016/17. Based on our sample check of the evidence used to demonstrate compliance, we would confirm that the Council complied with the requirements of the Local Code of Corporate Governance.
  - 1.4. In addition, it is evident that the Local Code has been subject to review and updating in line with developments in best practice and any revised Council Policies. The Director of Finance and Resources endorses the Chief Auditor's recommendation that the Local Code should continue to be subject to an annual review to ensure that it continues to reflect developments in best practice in governance.
-

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are invited to note the contents of this report.
- 

## 3. Background

- 3.1. The Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance came into effect formally on 1 April 2002.
  - 3.2. CIPFA, in conjunction with SOLACE, recognise that authorities of different types and geographical areas are subject to separate legislative arrangements and publish guidance notes for Scottish Authorities to complement their Corporate Governance Framework. The Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance is reviewed annually and updated in line with the current guidance notes and also to reflect any updated Council policies.
- 

### Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** - None
2. **HR & Organisational Development** - None
3. **Community Planning**

**Safer and Stronger** – This report provides assurance that the governance arrangements in place show a clear commitment to following governance best practice guidance and of promoting the involvement of customers, staff and partners in service delivery.

4. **Legal** - None
  5. **Property/Assets** - None
  6. **Information Technology** - None
  7. **Equality & Human Rights** - None
  8. **Health & Safety** – None
  9. **Procurement** - None
  10. **Risk** - None
  11. **Privacy Impact** – None
-