

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Audit Board

27TH SEPTEMBER 2010

Whistle-blowing – Confidential Reporting Code

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Cllr Geoff Denaro
Relevant Head of Service	Head of Resources – Teresa Kristunas
Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 The Confidential Reporting Code (Whistleblowing) has been revised as part of the annual review of the Policy. The Policy has been updated to:
- Include changes to job titles as a result of the recent management re-structure

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the Confidential Reporting Code (Whistleblowing) attached at Appendix 1 be approved.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Confidential Reporting Code (Whistleblowing) has been updated to reflect changes as a result of the recent management re-structure. The Policy provides a commitment to fighting fraud and corruption that affects the Council. It also provides arrangements for the reporting of fraud.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The Policy has been updated as shown above. No other changes were necessary.

This Policy is reviewed on an annual basis, in order to ensure that it is as up-to-date as possible. It is a public policy, for the information of all of our residents.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None.

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7. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 This is a revised policy based on the previously approved Confidential Reporting Code (Whistleblowing), by Members.

8. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES

- 8.1 Improvement.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT INCLUDING HEALTH & SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

n/a – this is an updated policy specific to the Council in relation to putting in place an effective strategy for tackling fraudulent and corrupt acts against the authority.

10. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 This Policy will be posted on the internet for public consumption. Staff will have access via the ORB intranet.

11. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 None – this policy sets out the framework for tackling fraudulent and corrupt acts against the authority.

12. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS, PROCUREMENT AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

None

13. CLIMATE CHANGE, CARBON IMPLICATIONS AND BIODIVERSITY

None

14. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

None

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15. GOVERNANCE/PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

15.1 This Policy assists in the governance of Bromsgrove Council. It is designed to publicly raise awareness of how to report fraud affecting the Council, both internally and externally.

16. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING SECTION 17 OF CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998

None

17. HEALTH INEQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

None

18. LESSONS LEARNT

18.1 The amendments of this Policy show that an annual review is necessary to ensure that the Policy reflects current procedures, and structures.

19. COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

None – this Policy reflects the Council’s commitment to the prevention, detection and investigation of fraud against the Council.

20. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT

Portfolio Holder	Yes
Chief Executive	No
Executive Director (S151 Officer)	Yes
Executive Director – Leisure, Cultural, Environmental and Community Services	No
Executive Director – Planning & Regeneration, Regulatory and Housing Services	No
Director of Policy, Performance and Partnerships	No

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Head of Service	Yes
Head of Resources	Yes
Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	No
Corporate Procurement Team	No

21. WARDS AFFECTED

All Wards

22. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Confidential Reporting Code (Whistleblowing)

23. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

24. KEY

N/A

AUTHOR OF REPORT

Name: Marie Wall
E Mail: m.wall@bromsgrove.gov.uk
Tel: (01527) 881240