

## **REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**HELD ON 15 JUNE 2004**

Present: Councillor Framroze (Chair); Councillors Lepper, Older, Paskins, Mrs Theobald and Watkins.

Independent Members: Ms M Carter, Mrs H Scott, Dr M B Wilkinson (Deputy Chair).

### **5. REVISED WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY AND ACTION PLAN**

5.1 The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Services seeking the approval of the updated Whistleblowing Policy and action plan for implementation (for copy see minute book).

5.2 The Director of Corporate Services explained that the report before Members and for which approval of the Council was required represented the updated and “final” version of the “Whistleblowing” Policy. It was noted in answer to questions that where “external auditors” were referred to, in practice this function was likely to be carried out by District Audit, but that ultimately authority vested with the Audit Commission.

5.3 In answer to further questions the Director of Governance and Strategy confirmed that the policy had been designed in order to provide a number of avenues which would enable staff to raise concerns they might have and to receive feedback on any action taken. Once the Policy had received the approval of Council, initiatives would be put into place to raise staff awareness of the Policy.

5.4 **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL** - (1) That the Whistleblowing Policy, as set out in Appendix B of the report, be approved and adopted; and

(2) Note the contents of the Implementation Action Plan for the Policy.