

**PART ONE**

**To: Surrey Police Authority**

**Date: 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

**By: Alison Bolton, Acting Chief Executive**

**Title: Review of the Code of Corporate Governance for 2009-10 and Draft Code for 2010-11**

---

**Purpose of report**

In March 2009, the Authority approved and published its Code of Corporate Governance for 2009-10. This report updates Members on progress against that Code and considers a draft Code for publication for 2010-11.

**Background**

The Authority's Code of Corporate Governance was drawn up following extensive discussions with the Standards and Audit Committees during 2008-09. Following a recommendation from the internal auditors, the Code was revised to ensure it reflected the CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) and SOLACE (Society of Local Authority Chief Executives) framework for Good Governance.

The purpose of the Code is to demonstrate that the Authority is compliant with the principles of 'good governance'. 'Governance' means those systems, processes, culture and values by which the Authority is directed and by which it controls what it does. CIPFA/SOLACE state that 'good governance' means:

- i. focusing on the purpose of the authority and on outcomes for the community and creating and implementing a vision for the local area
- ii. members and officers working together to achieve a common purpose with clearly defined functions and roles
- iii. promoting the values for the authority and demonstrating the values of good governance through upholding high standards of conduct and behaviour

- iv. taking informed and transparent decisions which are subject to effective scrutiny and managing risk
- v. developing the capacity and capability of members and officers to be effective
- vi. engaging with local people and other stakeholders to ensure robust public accountability.

We have structured our Code of Corporate Governance against these six principles and reviewed our governance arrangements against them. Our Code of Corporate Governance demonstrates how we will comply with these principles. It also sets out our arrangements for the review of governance (including the roles of our Panels and Committees, the Chief Constable and those statutory agencies from which the Authority receives assurance on the effectiveness of internal controls).

Annex A of this report shows the Authority's progress during 2009-10 against how we said we would demonstrate the six principles of 'good governance'.

Annex B sets out a proposed draft Code for 2010-11. It is suggested that the broad framework for the Code remains fit for purpose. A number of suggested minor amendments are highlighted in red, which largely reflect progress made in various areas of work since the publication of the Code.

The Code has been reviewed by the Standards Committee at its meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> April. A particular point raised was how the outcomes delivered as a result of the Code are measured. Many outcomes are already monitored by other panels and committees and by the Authority as a whole. The Authority has included specific 'success criteria' in its Business Plan which serve as a measurable way of assessing the Authority's performance across various areas of its business.

**Recommendations**

The Authority is asked to:

- Note the progress against the Code of Corporate Governance for 2009-10
  - Recommend the approval of the draft code of corporate Governance for 2010-11 to the full Authority.
- 

|                          |                                       |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Contact details</b>   | Alison Bolton, Acting Chief Executive |
| <b>Telephone number:</b> | 01483 630200                          |
| <b>Email Address</b>     | bolton11786@surrey.pnn.police.uk      |

---