



## Cabinet 12 September 2012

### Report of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee: Whistleblowing Policy (Sep12/11)

- (1) Good governance requires organisations to take malpractice seriously and to ensure that employees and others have adequate means to raise concerns about such malpractice. St Edmundsbury Borough Council has in place a Whistleblowing Policy which sets out its commitment and describes the protection available to those who raise matters of concern.
- (2) The Council's current Whistleblowing Policy was last revised in February 2006. It is good practice to review arrangements from time to time, and as such a review of the Policy had been undertaken to ensure it continued to reflect best practice, legislation and shared services arrangements. The revised joint Policy between Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council was discussed by the Committee.
- (3) The Policy aims to reassure employees and others that if they were faced with serious concerns regarding either Council, they could feel confident that their allegation would be treated in a correct and proper manner without fear of repercussions.
- (4) The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that:-
  - (a) **subject to the approval of full Council, the revised joint Whistleblowing Policy between Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council, as contained in Appendix A to Report D96, be adopted; and**
  - (b) **the Portfolio Holder for Performance and Resources be given delegated authority to amend the officer post titles where necessary regarding the reporting of whistleblowing concerns referred to within the Policy, following the upcoming senior management restructure.**

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