

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE**
DATE: **WEDNESDAY, 26 MARCH 2014**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF LEGAL & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**
SUBJECT: **WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To consider amending the Constitution to reflect updating changes to the Council's Whistleblowing Policy.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 At its meeting on the morning of the 26 March the Audit Committee will be considering a report recommending updating changes to the Council's current Whistleblowing Policy. A copy of that report is attached as Appendix 1.

2.02 The Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 introduced changes to the statutory protection given to whistleblowers that needs to be reflected in the Council's policy.

2.03 The Council's Whistleblowing Policy forms part of the Council's Constitution and the committee is in the second year of a 3 year programme to review all parts of the Constitution.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The Council's Whistleblowing Policy needs to be updated to reflect the change in legislation whereby the protection given to whistleblowers now applies where they reasonably believe that the disclosure they are making is in the public interest.

3.02 The decision made by the Audit Committee at its meeting on the morning of the 26 March will be reported verbally to the committee.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 The committee is requested to consider and approve the updated policy attached as an appendix to the report to Audit Committee.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None as a result of this report.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None as a result of this report.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None as a result of this report.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None as a result of this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None as a result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 With relevant officers in Legal & Democratic Services, Finance and HR&OD.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 With relevant officers in Legal & Democratic Services, Finance and HR&OD.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1 – Audit Committee Report

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None

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