

Report for: Audit Committee

Date of Meeting:	25 March 2025
Subject:	Whistleblowing Policy 2025
Cabinet Member:	Cllr Luke Taylor, Leader of the Council
Responsible Officer:	Steve Carr, Corporate Performance and Improvement Manager. Matthew Page, Head of People, Performance and Waste
Exempt:	N/A
Wards Affected:	All
Enclosures:	Appendix A: Draft Whistleblowing Policy 2025

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendation(s)

To present Audit committee with the updated Whistleblowing Policy 2025.

Recommendation(s):

That Audit Committee approve the amendments to the Whistleblowing Policy 2025.

Section 2 – Report

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Whistleblowing Policy was last approved by Audit Committee on 23 March 2021.
- 1.2 The legislation has not changed since the Policy was last approved but some minor amendments have been made to the document. These are shown as tracked changes on the Policy, attached as Appendix A. Revisions

were made in consultation with the Operations Manager for People Services and the Director of Legal, People and Governance and Monitoring Officer.

- 1.3 It is essential to have this policy in place to promote good governance and accountability within the Council. Mid Devon District Council is an open and transparent employer and understands that whistleblowing can lead to improved services.
- 1.4 This policy is reviewed every four years so unless there are changes to the legislation the Committee will next review it in 2029.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications from the amendments proposed to the Policy. Whistleblowing covers fraudulent activity and can therefore provide financial benefit to the Council.

Legal Implications

Any relevant legal requirements are embedded in the Policy. There are no new or additional implications.

Risk Assessment

Without this Policy, the Council is at increased risk of not detecting fraud, corruption or financial irregularities, which could result in loss to the Council or damage its reputation.

Impact on Climate Change

No impacts identified for this report.

Equalities Impact Assessment

No equality issues identified for this report.

Relationship to Corporate Plan

This policy supports good governance arrangements enabling confidence in delivery of the Corporate Plan.

Section 3 – Statutory Officer sign-off/mandatory checks

Statutory Officer: Andrew Jarrett

Agreed by or on behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Date: 11 March 2025

Statutory Officer: Maria de Leiburne
Agreed on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 11 March 2025

Chief Officer: Stephen Walford
Agreed by or on behalf of the Chief Executive/Corporate Director
Date: 11 March 2025

Performance and risk: Steve Carr
Agreed on behalf of the Corporate Performance & Improvement Manager
Date: 06 Jan 2025

Cabinet member notified: Yes

Report: Exclusion of the press and public from this item of business on the published agenda on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information. (Yes/No)

Appendix: Exclusion of the press and public from this item of business on the published agenda on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information. (Yes/No)

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Dr Steve Carr, Corporate Performance & Improvement Manager
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Background papers: