

**DRAFT WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY 2017**

**Cabinet Member** Cllr Margaret Squires  
**Responsible Officer** Director of Corporate Affairs & Business Transformation,  
Jill May

**Reason for Report:** To present the Committee with the Draft Whistleblowing Policy.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Committee reviews the draft policy and feeds back any comments.

**Relationship to Corporate Plan:** This policy supports good governance arrangements enabling confidence in delivery of the Corporate Plan.

**Financial Implications:** None identified

**Legal Implications:** Any legal requirements are embedded in the policy; no new or additional implications arise.

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

**1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 At the last Scrutiny Committee meeting on 16 January, when the six monthly whistleblowing update was given, it was agreed that this Committee would have the opportunity to review the draft policy and make comments before it went to Audit Committee for approval on 21 March 2017.
- 1.2 The Audit Team Leader has done a comprehensive re-write of the policy which hopefully reflects concerns raised at various committee meetings.
- 1.3 This policy was last approved at Audit committee on 2 December 2014.
- 1.4 While the intent and legislation have not changed since the policy was last approved it is hoped that it is now more user friendly and that outside sources of advice and support are more clearly signposted.

**2.0 Conclusion and Recommendation**

- 2.1 That the Committee makes any suggestions for improvements it feels are appropriate for consideration before the policy goes to Audit Committee for approval on 21 March 2017.

**Contact for more Information:** Catherine Yandle, Audit Team Leader ext 4975

**Circulation of the Report:** Management Team and Cabinet Member