

Regulatory and Audit Committee

Title:	Whistleblowing Policy - Incidents and Effectiveness
Date:	Wednesday 14 June 2017
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Local members affected:	John Chilver, Cabinet Member for Resources Mike Appleyard, Cabinet Member for Education & Skills

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Summary

The Council's Whistleblowing Policies (for Services and Schools) were updated last year to reflect the Government's revised 'prescribed persons' list. These updated policies were approved by the Regulatory and Audit Committee in April 2016.

The policy is brought to the attention of new joiners to the Council through Appendix 1, County Wide Confidentiality Statement, attached to Contracts of Employment. The Whistleblowing Policy is highlighted in the Employee Handbook and is available to all employees on the Council's intranet and Schoolsweb. The policy also appears on the Council's internet for access by those working with the Council who do not have access to the intranet.

We have had one service based whistleblowing complaint in 2016/17. This raised concerns about whether the proposal to transfer the supply of legal services to the London Borough of Harrow was lawful. The complaint was investigated and external legal advice obtained which provided assurance that the transfer was lawful. The proposal was duly implemented.

There has been no updated legislation issued with regard to Whistleblowing, and the Whistleblowing policies have been reviewed and it is recommended that no amendments are required.

Recommendation

That the Regulatory and Audit Committee approve the current Whistleblowing policies for Services and Schools.

Background Papers

The attached appendices are the current Whistleblowing policies for Services and Schools.
