

Audit, Standards and Risk Committee

24 March 2022

Code of Corporate Governance

Is the paper exempt from the press and public?	No
<i>Reason why exempt:</i>	Not applicable
Purpose of this report:	Governance
Funding Stream:	Not applicable
Is this a Key Decision?	No
Has it been included on the Forward Plan?	Not a Key Decision

Director Approving Submission of the Report:

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Executive Summary

This paper presents a Code of Corporate Governance for the integrated organisation.

What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

This paper and the Code of Corporate Governance will provide assurance to the businesses and people of South Yorkshire that the MCA and LEP is committed to good governance and that the outcomes, or the results of our activity, are defined and achieved and that the MCA Executive Team are accountable, open and transparent in the way it operates.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to consider the Code of Corporate Governance (appendix A).

Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel

Forthcoming Mayoral Combined Authority Board

06 June 2022

1. Background

- 1.1 The Code of Corporate Governance is a public statement setting out how South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority will fulfil the principles of good governance in practice. The statement also encompasses the South Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership and, until formal dissolution, the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (SYPTe). The Code demonstrates that, collectively, our governance arrangements comply with the core and sub-principles contained in the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework Delivering Good Governance in Local Government 2016.
- 1.2 The underpinning principle of the CIPFA/SOLACE framework is that local government organisations should develop and shape an approach to governance that takes account of the unique environment the organisation is operating in. The Framework assists authority's in developing their approach to ensure that resources are used in accordance with agreed priorities, there is sound and inclusive decision making and clear accountability for the use of resources to achieve the desired outcomes for service users and communities.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 In line with a commitment to review the Code of Corporate Governance annually, the existing MCA Code has been reviewed against the CIPFA Framework taking into account the priorities and operating environment of the single organisation from 1st April. The proposed 2022-23 Code recognises that until the point of formal dissolution, SYPTe exists as a legal entity and therefore is still required to have a formal statement in place. This is reflected in the introduction.

2.2 Key areas of enhancement

Considering the priorities and operating environment of the single organisation key enhancements include:

- emphasis of the service and operational nature of the public transport functions of the single organisation including strengthening the importance of meaningful consultation with communities and service users around schemes, projects and provision of services (ref section 4.2 and 6.2)
- a commitment to develop relationships that will challenge thinking and drive high quality strategies and plans (ref section 4.2 and 6.2)
- reference to the key indicators and metrics used to monitor and evaluate performance and understand the impact made (ref section 5.2 and 6.2)
- reference to assets, recognising the physical assets of the single organisation (ref section 6.2)

- 2.3 The Code of Corporate Governance will be presented to the Mayoral Combined Authority Board for approval.

3. Consultation on Proposal

- 3.1 The Annual Governance Review process, which has involved MCA officers, members of the senior management team and Statutory Officers has informed the proposed changes to the Code of Corporate Governance.

4. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 4.1 The Code of Corporate Governance will be considered at the Mayoral Combined Authority AGM meeting 6th June. If endorsed, it will be adopted with immediate effect. Should the formal dissolution of SYPTE take place before the next annual review, the Code will be updated to reflect this.

5. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

- 5.1 There are no financial or procurement implications relating to this report.

6. Legal Implications and Advice

- 6.1 There are no legal implications relating to this report.

7. Human Resources Implications and Advice

- 7.1 There are no Human Resource implications associated with this paper.

8. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice

- 8.1 There are no Equality and Diversity implications associated with this paper.

9. Climate Change Implications and Advice

- 9.1 There are no climate change implications associated with this paper.

10. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice

- 10.1 There are no ICT implications associated with this paper.

11. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice.

- 11.1 There are no Communications or Marketing implications associated with this paper. However, the Code of Corporate Governance will be published on the Authority's website.

List of Appendices Included

- A Code of Corporate Governance 2022

Background Papers: N/A