

Revised Code of Corporate Governance

Name of Committee	National Park Authority
Date	24 September 2021
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Purpose of Report	To seek approval of an updated Code of Corporate Governance
Single Integrated Assessment	Not applicable
List of Enclosures	Enclosure 1: Draft Code of Corporate Governance <u>Link to current Code of Corporate Governance</u>
Public Interest Test	Not applicable
Recommendation	To approve the revised Code of Corporate Governance for publication

1.0 Introduction

The Authority has adopted a Code of Corporate Governance in line with CIPFA guidance. This provides a statement of the governance which the Authority has in place, and is an integral part of the internal control mechanism. It is an important reference point when drafting the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) each year.

The work to produce the AGS this year, considered elsewhere on this agenda, has prompted the review of the Code of Corporate Governance (CCG), not least to reflect the move to virtual meetings. The CCG is due for review this year so this ties in well with the timetable for the AGS, which has to be presented as part of the Annual Accounts each year.

2.0 Proposals

Because a review is due and the CIPFA Framework headings have changed since the last version of the CCG, a new draft has been prepared. A link to the current version is here: [Code of Corporate Governance](#)

The Governance and Member Development Working group considered the draft version on 9 July 2021 and one member sent some helpful suggestions which have been incorporated in this final draft.

The main changes are:

- To take account of the changes in the CIPFA principles
- To reduce the amount of narrative and focus on the principles of governance;
- To update information on current governance arrangements
- To refer to the pandemic and ensuring that business can continue through virtual means.

1.3 Implications

The Code of Corporate Governance provides a statement of assurance that the Authority has governance procedures in place, and this supports statements made in the Annual Governance Statement.

1.4 Risk

The Authority is required to produce the Code and this is taken into account when it is audited on the Annual Governance Statement.

1.5 Conclusion

Members are asked to approve the updated Code of Corporate Governance.

RECOMMENDATION: To approve the revised Code of Corporate Governance for publication.