Meeting:	Standards Committee
Date:	26th March 2007
Subject:	Whistleblowing Policy
Key Decision: (Executive-side only)	N/A
Responsible Officer:	Jon Turner - Head of Human Resources
Portfolio Holder:	David Ashton, Finance and Business Matters
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Whistleblowing Policy

SECTION 1 – SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS:

To agree the revised Whistleblowing Policy.

SECTION 2 - REPORT

The current Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure has been in place since March 2001 and has been reviewed as part of the Council's governance arrangements and general review of its policies.

The Standards Committee meeting on 5th December 2006 considered a revised policy and procedure and at that time it was reported that consultation was ongoing with the trade unions and others within the Council.

Officers who have dealt with whistleblowing issues, Legal Services, trade unions, employee support groups and Complaints Officers have all now had the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the policy and procedure.

A revised Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure is now attached which takes on board feedback received.

The revisions provide greater clarity around the legislation concerning Whistleblowing and to whom the Policy applies. It also updates and improves guidance on how workers can raise a concern.

There are no direct costs associated with agreeing the revised policy.

The revised Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure Policy is being submitted to the Committee for approval.

SECTION 3 - STATUTORY OFFICER CLEARANCE

Chief Finance Officer	√	Name:…Barry Evans Date: 8th March 2007
Monitoring Officer	√	Name: Jill Travers Date: 16th March 2007

SECTION 4 - CONTACT DETAILS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

Contact: Tish Tunnacliffe HR Adviser, 020 8424 1136

Background Papers: Whistleblowing Policy agreed March 2001
Report to Standard Committee 5th December 2006

IF APPROPRIATE, does the report include the following considerations?

1.	Consultation	YES
2.	Corporate Priorities	N/A
3.	Manifesto Pledge Reference Number	N/A