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## **External Funding and Grants Protocol**

To: **Governance & Audit – 24 September 2014**

Main Portfolio Area: **Corporate**

By: **External Funding Officer**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All**

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**Summary:** **To present the new External Funding and Grants Protocol**  
**For Decision**

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### **1.0 Introduction**

1.1 The purpose of this paper is to introduce the revised external funding protocol.

### **2.0 Background**

2.1 The original External Funding Protocol put in place robust procedures to prevent breaches of external funding grant conditions and possible repayment of grants as a result.

### **3.0 Current Position**

3.1 The protocol was previously approved by Governance and Audit on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011 and is regularly reviewed. This revised version reaffirms the procedures, but in addition strengthens further the payment of grants to third parties and in the applying of external funding.

3.2 The revised External Funding and Grants Protocol is presented at **Annex 1**.

### **4.0 Corporate Implications**

#### **4.1 Financial**

4.1.1 There are no direct financial implications; the approval of the protocol ensures that potential financial risks are considered prior to, during and after grant drawdown to avoid adverse impact on the Council's finances.

#### **4.2 Legal**

4.2.1 Section 151 of the 1972 Local Government Act requires a suitably qualified named officer to keep control of the Council's finances. For this Council, this is the Interim Director of Corporate & Regulatory Services (S151 Officer), Paul Cook, and this report is helping to carry out that function.

#### **4.3 Corporate**

- 4.3.1 Corporate priorities rely in part on the success of external funding applications. The protocol assists the Council in applying and managing the risk associated with external funders requirements.

#### **4.4 Equity and equalities**

- 4.4.1 There are no equity or equality issues arising from this report.

#### **5.0 Recommendation**

- 5.1 That Governance and Audit approve the adoption of the revised External Funding and Grants Protocol.

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