

**Committee:** Council

**Title:** Bribery Act Policy

**Lead Member:** Councillor Fiddy, Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee

**Report Author:** Nurainatta Katevu, Legal Manager and Monitoring Officer

[nkatevu@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:nkatevu@uttlesford.gov.uk)

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## Summary

1. The Bribery Act Policy is due for review and this report has been considered by the Audit and Standards Committee on 25 September. The Committee resolved to recommend the revised policy to Council for adoption.

## Recommendations

2. That the content of the report be noted.
3. That Full Council adopts the updated Bribery Act Policy in Appendix A

## Financial Implications

4. None

## Background Papers

5. Appendix A being the tracked version for member information.

## Impact

- 6.

Communication/Consultation	None as in compliance with best practice guidance and the Committee's terms of reference.
Community Safety	None
Equalities	<p>In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.</p> <p>The contents of this report do not directly impact on equality, in that it is not making</p>

	proposals that will have a direct impact on equality of access or outcomes for diverse groups.
Health and Safety	None
Human Rights/Legal Implications	The Bribery Act 2010 was introduced to update and enhance English law on bribery. It creates a strict liability corporate criminal offence of failing to prevent bribery. The only defence against this corporate offence is for organisations to have adequate procedures in place to prevent bribery
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	The officer involvement required to comply with these obligations are factored into service plans and work plans.

## Situation

7. The policy provides a clear statement of the Council's position and response to bribery activity.
8. The policy provides the mechanisms for detecting and reporting suspected bribery activity.
9. The current policy was last reviewed in April 2019.
10. A review of this policy has been carried out as part of the Counter Fraud Strategy.
11. There have been a small number of updates to the Council's Bribery Act policy which are shown in tracked changes in the attached Appendix A, which is now recommended for adoption.

## Risk Analysis

- 12.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
It is important that the Council continues to highlight the responsibility to adhere to this policy resides at all levels of the council.	2	2	The Council's induction programme includes a module to the Bribery Act 2010 and this policy

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.