



REPORT of MONITORING OFFICER

to
**JOINT STANDARDS COMMITTEE
26 JANUARY 2021**

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE – BEST PRACTICE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To set out the Council’s position in relation to the Committee on Standards in Public Life Best Practice Recommendations attached at **APPENDIX 1**.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) To consider the Committee on Standards in Public Life Best Practice Recommendations at **APPENDIX 1** and make any necessary changes to standards procedures.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 In July 2020 the Council received a letter from the Committee on Standards in Public Life that was sent to all Councils requesting a review of the Council’s practices as compared to the best practice recommendations. Members considered an initial report on the matter on 27 October 2020 and resolved that a further report be presented to the Joint Standards Committee. Since then a new model Code of Conduct has been published by the Local Government Association. This will be the subject of a report to the Committee at a future date.
- 3.2 The Council’s present and proposed practices are set out in **APPENDIX 1** in relation to each of the 15 best practice recommendations.

4. IMPACT ON STRATEGIC THEMES

- 4.1 Any improvements in best practice will increase public confidence in the conduct of members.

5. IMPLICATIONS

- (ii) **Impact on Customers** – Public confidence in the decision-making process should be increased.

- (i) **Impact on Equalities** – None
- (ii) **Impact on Risk** – None
- (iii) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – None
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (human)** – Increase in workload of Monitoring Officer
- (v) **Impact on the Environment** – None
- (vi) **Impact on Strengthening Communities** - None

Background Papers: None

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