PART 5 – CODES AND PROTOCOLS

INTRODUCTION

An effective local authority is one where Members and Officers understand their different roles and responsibilities and have an effective working relationship to ensure quality service delivery to the community. The way in which Members and Officers interact and behave is core to the ethical framework of public service. There are established codes of conduct for both Members and Officers, some embodied in statute and others developed locally. These govern conduct and form the basis of the working relationship between Members and Officers.

The Council strives to maintain the highest possible ethical standards in order to ensure lasting public confidence in all of its activities. The various codes of conduct, protocols and procedures governing the activities of both Members and Officers have been brought together in an overarching framework as part of the Council's Constitution.

The Member Code of Conduct is embodied in statute. Many of the other codes and protocols do not have such a clear statutory basis but they build upon the Nolan Principles of Public Life and Section 28(1) of the Localism Act 2011, which is appended to the Code. These standards reinforce the basic principles of individual ethical behaviour and both Members and Officers working in partnership to serve the community at the same time as upholding the integrity, values and ideals of public service.