

Report of City Solicitor

Report to Full Council

Date: 27th March 2019

Subject: Annual Report of the Standards and Conduct Committee

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 Council Procedure Rule 2.2 (f) stipulates that an annual report of the committee must be referred to full Council for consideration; this being to support the duty of the Authority to promote and maintain high standards of conducts by Members and co-opted Members of the Council.

2 Background information

- 2.1 The Standards and Conduct Committee met on the 8th March 2019 and resolved to agree the annual report set out at Appendix 1.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 Members are requested to consider the draft annual report and note the work of the committee in the 2018/19 Municipal year.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 This report consults Members views on the content of the annual report of the committee.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 There are no equality and diversity or cohesion and integration issues arising from this report.

4.3 Council Policies and best council plan

- 4.3.1 Principle 3 of the Code of Corporate Governance states that the Council will put in place a Code of Conduct and keep it under review.
- 4.3.2 According to the Localism Act 2011 the Council has a duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct amongst Members and co-opted Members of the authority. This report outlines how the Standards and Conduct Committee has carried out this duty on behalf of the Council.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

- 4.4.1 There are no resource implications arising from this report and the Monitoring Officer confirms, by way of this report, that she has adequate resources to fulfil her statutory duties.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 The Standards and Conduct Committee's terms of reference are taken from the Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.
- 4.5.2 There are no implications for access to information or call in arising from this report.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 The arrangements described within the Standards and Conduct Committee's report provide assurance that the authority, parish and town councils, individual councillors and the Monitoring Officer are complying with the requirements set out in the Localism Act 2011. The work undertaken by the Monitoring Officer and her staff, and by the committee, ensures that these arrangements remain up to date and fit for purpose and that the risk of breaching the statutory requirements is minimised.
- 4.6.2 In relation to complaints against councillors the Monitoring Officer has considered the information above and does not consider that there are any adverse trends in the types of complaints received, and as no potential breaches of the Members' Code of Conduct have been revealed, there are no issues to address through training.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are requested to receive and consider the Annual Report at Appendix 1.