

# Annual Report of the Standards and Conduct Committee

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Report of: City Solicitor

Report to: Standards and Conduct Committee

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

## What is this report about?

The purpose of this report is to present to the committee the draft Annual Report of the Standards and Conduct Committee (relating to matters within the committee's terms of reference) for approval.

## Recommendations

Members are requested to,

- a) consider and approve the draft Annual Report (attached at Appendix 1) and
- b) support the Chair in presenting the Annual Report to full Council.

## Why is the report being put forward?

- 1 Council Procedure Rule 2.2 (f) stipulates that an annual report of the committee must be referred to full Council for consideration.

## What impact will this report have?

### Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted?  Yes  No

- 2 The Council's ethical framework for elected members is a key component of the Council's Values of being open, honest and trusted and treating people fairly. The Standards and Conduct Committee reporting to Full Council annually supports the duty of the Authority to promote and maintain high standards of conducts by Members and co-opted Members of the Council.

## What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 3 The purpose of the report being before the committee is to seek comments, amendments and subsequent approval of the Annual Report.

## What are the resource implications?

- 4 There are no resource implications arising from this report.

## What are the legal implications?

- 5 The Localism Act 2011 places a duty on the Council to promote and maintain high standards of conduct amongst Members and co-opted Members of the authority, reporting in this way to Full Council supports the discharge of that duty.

### **What are the key risks and how are they being managed?**

- 6 The arrangements described within this 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.

### **Does this report support the council's three Key Pillars?**

Inclusive Growth       Health and Wellbeing       Climate Emergency

- 7 Having a well-functioning ethical framework helps maintain confidence in the governance arrangements of the authority and thereby of the Council's objectives.

### **Options, timescales and measuring success**

#### **What other options were considered?**

- 8 This a factual report detailing the operation of the ethical framework in place at Leeds City Council.

#### **How will success be measured?**

- 9 By considering reports from the Monitoring Officer the Standards and Conduct Committee ensure that the Council's Ethical Framework remains up-to-date and fit for purpose.

#### **What is the timetable for implementation?**

- 10 There are no required timescales for implementation.

### **Appendices**

- 11 Appendix 1 Draft Annual Report of the Standards and Conduct Committee

### **Background papers**

- 12 None.