

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

HELD: Tuesday, 14 March 2023

Start: 7.00 pm

Finish: 7.15 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor: Y Gagen (Chairman)

Councillors: I Davis
J Howard
J Witter
Webster
Fawcett

J Fillis
G Owen
Stopford
Garvey

10 **APOLOGIES**

There were no Apologies for absence received.

11 **MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no changes to the Membership of the Committee.

12 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

13 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent items of business.

14 **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

There was no public speaking.

15 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2022, be approved as a correct record.

16 **COMPLAINTS STATISTICS**

The Legal and Democratic Services Manager presented the Complaints Statistics as contained on pages 45-46 of the Book of Reports, which provided Members with statistical information in relation to standards complaints for the period 20 September 2022 to 6 March 2023.

Two formal complaints relating to Parish Council were received. The Monitoring Officer responded to both complainants advising that the Members Code of Conduct had not been breached.

RESOLVED: That the Standards Complaint Statistics be noted.

17 **CHANGE OF GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEES**

Members were presented with the draft report of Simon Goacher (Independent Legal Adviser) on behalf of the Chief Operating Officer, regarding the Change of Governance Arrangements Draft Terms of Reference, which will be submitted to Council on 5 April 2023.

The Legal and Democratic Services Manager explained the project which has been implemented to carry out the changes and structures required to facilitate the Change in Governance arrangements, from a Leader/Cabinet System to a Committee System, which the Council have agreed to commence May 2024.

The impact that the change of Governance arrangements was likely to have on Standards Committee was not known at present, but the information presented to Standards Committee was to make Members aware of the future Governance Terms of Reference, ahead of being submitted to Council, and updates would be provided in future.

Members were advised that a Training Session will be provided for All Members of the Council to attend, where Ed Hammond from the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS), will be explaining what it feels like to work under a Committee System.

It was noted the positive support other Authorities have provided during the project to date.

RESOLVED: That the Change of Governance Arrangements Draft Terms Of Reference be noted.

18 **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Legal and Democratic Services Manager presented Members with the work plan for the committee, and explained that each Committee will have a work plan moving forward. The intention being that there would be a twelve-month lead in time for large projects, to make Officers and Members aware of the work commitments and considerations required throughout the year. This was in response to the Peer Review feedback.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

HELD: Tuesday, 14 March 2023

RESOLVED: That the work programme be noted.

.....
Chairman