

Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee

19 March 2019

Subject:	Annual Report of the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee
Director:	Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer - Surjit Tour
Contribution towards Vision 2030:	
Contact Officer(s):	Surjit Tour Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer surjit_tour@sandwell.gov.uk

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee:

1. Considers the draft Annual Report of the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee 2018/19 at Appendix 1.
2. Notes the update provided in respect of complaints received in relation to member conduct detailed at Appendix 2 to the Annual Report.

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 Annual Report

The Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee's terms of reference requires the committee to produce an annual report detailing the activities undertaken throughout the municipal year. The annual report will be referred to Full Council for consideration at its next meeting on 9 April 2019. The draft Annual Report is set out Appendix 1 to this report.

1.2 **Allegations Update**

Details of ongoing standards matters are set out at Appendix 2 to the annual report.

2 **IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION**

Through its work in promoting high standards of conduct, the Committee makes a positive contribution to the Council's governance and decision-making arrangements of the authority.

3 **STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no resource implications arising from this report.

4 **LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS**

The Authority has a statutory duty under the Localism Act 2011 to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Members. The Authority is also obliged to have in place a Code of Conduct, a procedure for investigating complaints against Members and ensure that any complaints made are investigated in accordance with that procedure.

The new standards arrangements are set out in chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011, and in secondary legislation made under the Act, particularly in The Relevant Authorities (Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 - Draft Annual Report of the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee 2018/19.

Appendix 2 - Standards Matters Update

Surjit Tour

Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer