


## Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee

4 October 2019

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Appointment to Ethical Standards Sub-Committees</b>
<b>Director:</b>	<b>Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer - Surjit Tour</b>
<b>Contribution towards Vision 2030:</b>	
<b>Contact Officer(s):</b>	Surjit Tour Surjit_tour@sandwell.gov.uk

### DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That, following changes in membership of the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee:

- 2.1 Revises the appointments to the two Ethical Standards Sub-Committees for the 2019/20 municipal year, with flexibility between membership to cater for availability and workload, with delegated powers to carry out the functions set out in the following terms of reference, and with the membership set out below:

Terms of reference of the Ethical Standards Sub Committee

- To consider investigation reports referred to it by the Monitoring Officer.
- To conduct hearings (including the imposition of sanctions).

Membership

Member	Member
Lewis	Ahmed
Akhter	Horton
Dhallu	P Hughes
Hevican	Simms
+ Independent Person	+ Independent Person

## **1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The Localism Act 2011 requires authorities to adopt arrangements for dealing with complaints about breaches of the Member Code of Conduct. The Council's arrangements for dealing with complaints provide for a Sub-Committee of the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee to consider investigation reports referred to it by the Monitoring Officer and to conduct hearings (including the imposition of sanctions).
- 1.2 Following changes in proportionality, the Council at its meeting held on 16 July 2019 revised the membership of the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee for the 2019/2020 municipal year. The Committee now needs to make appointments to the Ethical Standards Sub Committees for this municipal year.

## **2 IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION**

- 2.1 High standards of conduct are an essential part of good corporate governance and this in turn has a direct relationship with the delivery of high quality services.

## **3 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **4 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS**

- 4.1 Section 28(6) of the Localism Act 2011 provides that a relevant authority must have in place arrangements under which allegations that a member or co-opted member of the authority has failed to comply with the authority's code of conduct can be investigated, and arrangements under which decisions on allegations can be made. There is no statutory requirement as to the nature of these arrangements.

## **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no direct resource implications arising from this report.

## **6 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 6.1 The Committee is required to appoint members to the sub-committees to ensure relevant standards complaints are effectively addressed.

**Surjit Tour**

**Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer**