

Report to Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee

7 March 2023

Subject:	Committee on Standards in Public Life - Leading in Practice - Best Practice Recommendations
Director:	Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer – Surjit Tour
Contact Officer:	Vanessa Maher-Smith Principal Lead for Governance and Business Support & Solicitor

1 Recommendations

1.1 That the Committee considers:-

- (a) the “Leading in Practice” review undertaken by the Committee on Standards in Public Life;
- (b) the review of the Council’s current position and progress made in relation to the Committee on Standards in Public Life Best Practice Recommendations.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

Leading in Practice

The Committee on Standards in Public Life published its review “Leading in Practice” in January 2023.

The review relates to ethical and cultural behaviour in organisations.

It is proposed that a the Committee hold a workshop to discuss the Leading in Practice review and formulate an action plan.









Best Practice Recommendations

As part of its review of ethical standards in local government, the Committee on Standards in Public Life set out a number of Best Practice Recommendations.

Following the Council's response to the recommendations and the review of the Member Code of Conduct and Arrangements in 2021, a further review of the Best Practice Recommendations has been undertaken to highlight the Council position and progress made.

3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

		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.
		
		

4 Context and Key Issues

Leading in Practice

- 4.1 The Committee on Standards in Public Life has published its Leading in Practice review.
- 4.2 The report gathers insight from leaders in the public, private and charitable sectors and looks at how a range of organisations have approached the challenge of embedding ethical values in their culture and in the services they deliver.

Best Practice Recommendations

- 4.3 In 2018 the Committee on Standards in Public Life announced a review of ethical standards in local government. The report into Local Government Ethical Standards was published on 19 January 2019, which included a number of recommendations.



- 4.4 The first recommendation of the report into Local Government Ethical Standards was that the Local Government Association should draft a model code of conduct. The LGA model code of conduct was adopted last year as part of the Members' Code of Conduct review.
- 4.5 In addition, the Committee on Standards in Public Life provided some best practice recommendations to be taken into consideration. These recommendations are reviewed annually and the current position is identified in the appendix.

5 Implications

Resources:	There are no resource implications arising from this report
Legal and Governance:	The Best Practice Recommendations set out by the Committee on Standards in Public Life complement the review of the suite of documents in relation to Member Code of Conduct, Arrangements for dealing with complaints under the code, etc.
Risk:	There are no risks to implementation of the changes. The Council would be more at risk by not making the changes recommended by the CoSiPL.
Equality:	There are no equality issues arising directly from this report.
Health and Wellbeing:	There is no impact on health or wellbeing arising directly from this report.
Social Value	There are no implications for social value arising directly from this report.

6 Appendices

Appendix 1 – “Leading in Practice” review of the Committee on Standards in Public Life.

Appendix 2 - Updated position in relation to Committee on Standards in Public Life Best Practice Recommendations.

7. Background Papers

None.

