

Report to Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee

22 March 2022

Subject:	Review of the Committee on Standards in Public Life 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 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

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 last year, 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

- 4.1 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.
- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 In addition, the Committee on Standards in Public Life provided some best practice recommendations to be taken into consideration. Twelve months on, these have been reviewed 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 from this report.
Health and Wellbeing:	There is no impact on health or wellbeing arising from this report.
Social Value	There are no implications for social value arising directly from this report.

6 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Updated position in relation to Committee on Standards in Public Life Best Practice Recommendations.

7. Background Papers

None.

