

REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE.

Councillors Saima Afzal

PORTFOLIO COORDINATING

DIRECTOR: David Fairclough

This report updates the Council Forum on the work of the Standards Committee.

1 Consultation on a Draft Model Code of Conduct

The Committee received a report detailing the Local Government Association (LGA) has commitment to reviewing the current model member code of conduct, as recommended by the Committee on Standards in Public Life's report into Local Government Ethical Standards. The LGA had invited comment on the consultation draft. All Members of the Council had also been sent full details of the consultation by the Monitoring Officer so they could if they so wished comment directly individually to the consultation. The Committee agreed their collective response to the consultation questions, which was then submitted by the due deadline in August 2020.

2 Committee on Standards in Public Life - Local Government Ethical Standards.

The Committee on Standards in Public Life made a number of recommendations in their January 2019 report on local government ethical standards. In that report, they identified some best practice recommendations which represent a benchmark for ethical practice and which they expect any local authority should implement. The Committee noted that the Monitoring Officer and Head of Legal & Governance are reviewing the recommendations made and the Standards Committee at their next meeting will review any recommendations for change, acknowledging the consultation on the revised Model Code of Conduct referenced above.

**Councillor Saima Afzal
Chair of Standards Committee**

October 2020