REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE.

Councillors Tony Humphrys PORTFOLIO COORDINATING

STRATEGIC HEAD OF SERVICE: Asad Laher

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

Councillor Training Plan 2021/22

The Committee considered and approved proposals for the Councillor Training Plan which incorporates a range of training and information sessions to support the work of Councillors. The Standards Committee also noted the extensive `on line` training now available to Members which complimented the Plan now presented for noting.

The Committee confirmed as in previous year that all members should complete the Civil Contingencies/Emergency Planning Training, Cybersecurity training and Information Governance training which had all been specifically designed to provide all elected members with key information to support their role as councillors.

The Committee also noted the access to training produced by the Local Government Association (LGA) that was given to Elected members.

Recommendation:

The Council note the Training Plan (Appendix 1) developed by the Standards Committee for 2021/22, agree the mandatory training elements and encourage all Members to take advantage of the training and development provided to support their roles in the community.

Virtual Meetings Member Protocol.

At the Standards Committee meeting on 21st July 2021, the attached (Appendix 2) updated protocol was agreed for recommendation to the Council for when Members are participating in Remote Meetings.

Although we have been returning to meetings in person it is likely the incidence of virtual meetings will remain higher than pre-pandemic, as Councils, our partners and businesses take advantage of the efficiency and effectiveness `Remote Meetings` can contribute to the delivery of business.

The Committee therefore considered that Guidance in the form of a protocol should be produced to support Members who may be continuing to meet via this medium.

Recommendation:

That the Council approve the adoption of the Protocol

Councillor Tony Humphrys
Chair of Standards Committee