

ETHICAL GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK MONITORING

Report of the County Solicitor

Recommendation: that the Report be noted.

1. Independent, co-opted, members of the Standards Committee regularly attend meetings of the Council, the Cabinet and Committees on an ad-hoc basis to observe and monitor compliance with the Council's ethical governance framework, in line with the agreed protocol.
2. Since the last Report to the previous meeting the number of meetings attended has necessarily been limited and details of such meetings and the co-opted members' views/feedback is summarised below. The current rota is attached to this Report.

Meeting		Co-opted Member/Observer
County Council	25 May 2017	Mr Hodgson

3. The following table summarises the feedback received on a number of general issues common to all meetings

Observations:	1 = Very Poor and 5 = Very Good				
	1	2	3	4	5
Punctuality and Attendance of Members					✓
Appearance and presentation					✓
Speeches: clear, relevant, understandable, audio levels, use of microphones etc.,					✓
Use of appropriate language					✓
Members' Conduct & Behaviour					✓
Clear identification and declaration of interests (<i>where so declared</i>)					✓
Effective Chairmanship/conduct of meeting					✓
Adherence to Agenda					✓
Listening and responding to advice (from Officers)					✓

4. As part of the general induction programme for the new Council, a number of sessions have already been arranged on ethical governance matters and new Members have also been made aware of the monitoring undertaken by co-opted members of this Committee and the importance placed upon conduct and behaviours - perceived and real - and adherence to the Code of Conduct.
5. Refresher training will be provided during the course of the year as necessary but specific training for Members on working with and understanding their communities (including diversity and equality issues) is already planned for later this month.
6. This Report has no specific equality, sustainability, legal or public health implications that have not already been assessed and appropriate safeguards and/or actions taken or included within the detailed policies or practices or requirements relating to the conduct of meetings, to safeguard the Council's position.

JAN SHADBOLT

[Electoral Divisions: All]

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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<u>Background Paper</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>File Reference</u>
Nil		