

STANDARDS COMMITTEE – LATE REPORT

17 November 2022

The following report is now available to view:

* **4** **Ethical Governance Framework: Monitoring**

Report of the County Solicitor ([CSO/20/17](#)) on co-opted members' attendance at meetings of the Council, Cabinet and Committee meetings, monitoring compliance with the Council's ethical governance framework.

ETHICAL GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK MONITORING

Report of the Director of Legal and Democratic Services

Recommendation: that the report be noted.

1. The Standards Committee agreed previously that the independent, co-opted, members of the Committee should 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. Members have, since the report to the previous meeting, attended the following meetings virtually and their views/feedback are summarised below. With the current process of limiting numbers in the Committee rooms, the attendance rota for co-opted Members will be revisited in due course.

	Meeting	Date	Co-opted Member/Observer
3.	Health and Wellbeing Board	20 October	Ian Hipkin
	Public Rights of Way	3 November	Ray Hopkins
	Cabinet	9 November	Anne Mayes

The table below summarises feedback received from Members 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 (where so declared)					✓✓ n/a

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Effective Chairmanship/conduct of meeting					✓✓✓
Adherence to Agenda					✓✓✓
Listening and responding to advice (from Officers)					✓✓ n/a

4. While there were a number of other issues raised by co-opted Members in their observations, as set out below, there were no reports of any specific actions or behaviors that might be felt to have resulted in a potential breach of the Code or warranted further action.
- The meeting was very well chaired. Presentation slides were generally excellent and professional.
 - No issues
 - Difficult to ascertain whether everyone was there. I had difficulty being admitted to the meeting, I tried three times so, despite starting the process five mins before 10.30, by the time I did get in, the meeting had started so I missed any apologies for absence. Another Councillor also reported a similar problem.
5. 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.

MARIA PRICE

[Electoral Divisions: All]

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

Contact for Enquiries: J Jones

Tel No: 01392 380547 Room: G31

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