

Phil Norrey  
Chief Executive

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To: The Chair and Members of the  
Standards Committee

County Hall  
Topsham Road  
Exeter  
Devon  
EX2 4QD

(See below)

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Your ref :  
Our ref :

Date : 27 March 2019  
Please ask for : Karen Strahan 01392 382264

Email: karen.strahan@devon.gov.uk

## **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, 4th April, 2019

A meeting of the Standards Committee is to be held on the above date at 2.15 pm in the Committee Suite - County Hall to consider the following matters.

P NORREY  
Chief Executive

## **A G E N D A**

### **PART I - OPEN COMMITTEE**

1 Apologies for absence

2 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12 November 2018, previously circulated.

3 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

Items which in the opinion of the Chair should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

### **MATTERS FOR DECISION**

4 Member Profile Pages - DBS Checks and Sanctions (Pages 1 - 6)

Members are asked to consider adding further information to Councillor profile pages in terms of publishing DBS checks and / or sanctions or that a Councillor has no sanctions against them.

An example from Wigan Council is attached for information.

5 Councillor Complaints Process

Members are asked to consider making an amendment to the Councillor complaints process. At present a Subject Member (who has had a complaint made against them and the matter proceeds to a full investigation by an independent investigator) has the right to see a draft of the investigators Report.

It is suggested that this be amended so that the Subject Member has sight of both the draft report and the final report.

**STANDING ITEMS**

6 Customer Feedback Monitoring Report (Pages 7 - 16)

Report of the Head of Digital Transformation & Business Support on feedback, compliments, representations and complaints received and handled by the Council for Quarter 3 (October 2018 to December 2018), attached.

7 Ethical Governance Framework: Monitoring (Pages 17 - 20)

Report of the County Solicitor ([CSO/19/1](#)) on co-opted Members' attendance at meetings of the Council, monitoring compliance with ethical governance frameworks, attached.

**MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

8 Local Government Ethical Standards - A Review by the Committee in Public Life (Pages 21 - 36)

Executive Summary of 'Local Government Ethical Standards - A Review by the Committee in Public Life', attached.

Members will recall that this Committee submitted a [response](#) to the Consultation.

The full Report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life can be found [here](#).

The recently published Municipal Journal (the MJ), the management journal for local authority business referred to the recently published Report, in light of the Judicial Review outcome into the Standards regime in Devon, article attached.

9 Standards Committee Annual Report 2018/2019 (Pages 37 - 40)

In line with best practice the Committee has previously produced an Annual Report outlining the range of its activities and related developments during the year and identifying any issues for consideration or that might impact upon future arrangements.

The draft Annual Report for 2018/19 is submitted for endorsement and publication is attached.

The publication complements and gives rigour to the Council's Annual Governance Statement which it is required to publish separately on an annual basis.

**Recommendation**

That the Annual Report for 2018/19 be approved and published.

10 Local Determination of Complaints

County Solicitor to report on complaints or allegations of a breach of the Council's Members' Code of Conduct received since the last meeting.

**PART II - ITEMS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE ABSENCE OF PRESS AND PUBLIC ON THE GROUNDS THAT EXEMPT INFORMATION MAY BE DISCLOSED**

NIL

*Members are reminded that Part II Reports contain confidential information and should therefore be treated accordingly. They should not be disclosed or passed on to any other person(s).*

*Members are also reminded of the need to dispose of such reports carefully and are therefore urged to return them to the Committee Secretary at the conclusion of the meeting for disposal*

**Membership****County Councillors**

Councillors C Chugg (Chair), M Asvachin, R Bloxham, P Colthorpe, A Connett, J Mathews and P Twiss

**Co-opted Member**

Sir Simon Day, I Hipkin, R Hodgins, A Mayes and R Saltmarsh

**Declaration of Interests**

Members are reminded that they must declare any interest they may have in any item to be considered at this meeting, prior to any discussion taking place on that item.

**Access to Information**

Any person wishing to inspect any minutes, reports or lists of background papers relating to any item on this agenda should contact Karen Strahan 01392 382264.

Agenda and minutes of the Committee are published on the Council's Website and can also be accessed via the Modern.Gov app, available from the usual stores..

**Webcasting, Recording or Reporting of Meetings and Proceedings**

The proceedings of this meeting may be recorded for broadcasting live on the internet via the 'Democracy Centre' on the County Council's website. The whole of the meeting may be broadcast apart from any confidential items which may need to be considered in the absence of the press and public. For more information go to: <http://www.devoncc.public-i.tv/core/>

In addition, anyone wishing to film part or all of the proceedings may do so unless the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting or there is good reason not to do so, as directed by the Chair. Any filming must be done as unobtrusively as possible from a single fixed position without the use of any additional lighting; focusing only on those actively participating in the meeting and having regard also to the wishes of any member of the public present who may not wish to be filmed. As a matter of courtesy, anyone wishing to film proceedings is asked to advise the Chair or the Democratic Services Officer in attendance so that all those present may be made aware that is happening.

Members of the public may also use Facebook and Twitter or other forms of social media to report on proceedings at this meeting. An open, publicly available Wi-Fi network (i.e. DCC) is normally available for meetings held in the Committee Suite at County Hall. For information on Wi-Fi availability at other locations, please contact the Officer identified above.

**Emergencies**

In the event of the fire alarm sounding leave the building immediately by the nearest available exit, following the fire exit signs. If doors fail to unlock press the Green break glass next to the door. Do not stop to collect personal belongings, do not use the lifts, do not re-enter the building until told to do so.

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Please switch off all mobile phones before entering the Committee Room or Council Chamber

**If you need a copy of this Agenda and/or a Report in another format (e.g. large print, audio tape, Braille or other languages), please contact the Information Centre on 01392 380101 or email to: [centre@devon.gov.uk](mailto:centre@devon.gov.uk) or write to the Democratic and Scrutiny Secretariat at County Hall, Exeter, EX2 4QD.**



Induction loop system available

## **NOTES FOR VISITORS**

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**SatNav** – Postcode EX2 4QD

## **Walking and Cycling Facilities**

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## **Access to County Hall and Public Transport Links**

Bus Services K, J, T and S operate from the High Street to County Hall (Topsham Road). To return to the High Street use Services K, J, T and R. Local Services to and from Dawlish, Teignmouth, Newton Abbot, Exmouth, Plymouth and Torbay all stop in Barrack Road which is a 5 minute walk from County Hall. Park and Ride Services operate from Sowton, Marsh Barton and Honiton Road with bus services direct to the High Street.

The nearest mainline railway stations are Exeter Central (5 minutes from the High Street) and St David's and St Thomas's both of which have regular bus services to the High Street. Bus Service H (which runs from St David's Station to the High Street) continues and stops in Wonford Road (at the top of Matford Lane shown on the map) a 2/3 minute walk from County Hall, en route to the RD&E Hospital (approximately a 10 minutes walk from County Hall, through Gras Lawn on Barrack Road).

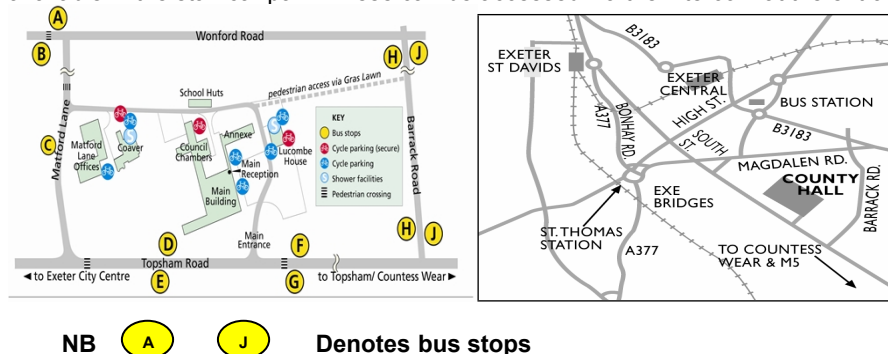
## **Car Sharing**

Carsharing allows people to benefit from the convenience of the car, whilst alleviating the associated problems of congestion and pollution. For more information see: <https://liftshare.com/uk/community/devon>.

## **Car Parking and Security**

There is a pay and display car park, exclusively for the use of visitors, entered via Topsham Road. Current charges are: Up to 30 minutes – free; 1 hour - £1.10; 2 hours - £2.20; 4 hours - £4.40; 8 hours - £7. Please note that County Hall reception staff are not able to provide change for the parking meters.

As indicated above, parking cannot be guaranteed and visitors should allow themselves enough time to find alternative parking if necessary. Public car parking can be found at the Cathedral Quay or Magdalen Road Car Parks (approx. 20 minutes walk). There are two disabled parking bays within the visitor car park. Additional disabled parking bays are available in the staff car park. These can be accessed via the intercom at the entrance barrier to the staff car park.



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## **First Aid**

Contact Main Reception (extension 2504) for a trained first aider.