

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....11th July 2012

1. Title of Item/Report

Localism Act 2011 (“the Act”) – A New Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members

2. Record of the Decision

Members considered a report that provided details of a proposed new code of conduct for the Council’s members as required by the Localism Act 2011 (“ the Act”).

Members were reminded that Council, at its meeting in March 2012, had agreed principles and guidance to officers for the drafting of the new code.

Cabinet was provided with a briefing note and a copy of the revised draft code of conduct for Stockton’s Members.

It was explained that members of the Standards Committee had had an opportunity to comment on the draft code and it had been discussed with leading Members and Officers.

Members noted that, when adopted, the Council was required to publicise the new code to bring it to the attention of persons living in the area.

Cabinet agreed that the code should be included in the planned review of the arrangements for dealing with misconduct allegations.

RECOMMENDED to Council that:-

1. the draft code of conduct, attached at Appendix 4 to the report, be approved and adopted by the Council as the code for dealing with the conduct that is expected of members and co-opted members of the Authority when acting in that capacity.

2. the publicising of the adoption of the code required by the Act, be delegated to the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Finance; and that

3. the review of the new standards arrangements, which Council previously agreed the Monitoring Officer should carry out after 12 months of their operation, include a review of the new code of conduct for members.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To ensure that the Council adopts and publicises a new code of conduct for Members as required by the Act and related regulations, and to ensure that the agreed code continues to be fit for purpose.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not applicable.

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not applicable.

Proper Officer  
16 July 2012