

AGENDA ITEM
REPORT TO COUNCIL
11 DECEMBER 2013
REPORT OF CORPORATE
MANAGEMENT TEAM

THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

SUMMARY

This report details proposals to update the principles of conduct in the preamble to the Council's Code in light of the revisions to the descriptions of the Nolan principles by the Committee on Standards in Public Life.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that the principles of conduct in the preamble to the Council's code be updated as proposed in the report and set out at Appendix 3.

DETAIL

Background

1. At the meeting on 4th September, 2013 Cabinet recommended that proposals to update the descriptions of the principles of conduct in the preamble to the Council's code, in light of the revisions to the descriptions of the Nolan principles, should be the subject of further reports to Cabinet and to Council.
2. Council approved this recommendation at its meeting on the 11th September, 2013.

Principles of Conduct

3. The Committee on Standards in Public Life has reviewed and revised the descriptions of the Nolan Principles. The original descriptions and the revised versions are attached at **Appendix 1** to this report.
4. Although the Council's Code of Conduct does not replicate the Nolan principles exactly, consideration should be given to the descriptions of the principles of conduct in the Code's preamble, to determine if any of those descriptions should be updated.
5. Details of the current preamble to the Authority's code of conduct are attached at **Appendix 2**. A suggested revised version of this preamble is attached at **Appendix 3**, showing the revisions which have been made. These revisions reflect the updated version of the descriptions to the Nolan principles.

6. At its meeting on 27 November 2013 Cabinet agreed that the details at Appendix 3 were appropriate and that they should be recommended to Council for inclusion in the preamble to the Members' Code. The relevant Cabinet decision record is attached at **Appendix 4** to this report.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial

7. There are no financial implications arising from or related to the proposal in this report.

Legal

8. Updating the descriptions to the principles in preamble to the Council's Code will more accurately reflect the revised version of the descriptions to the Nolan principles of conduct.

RISK ASSESSMENT

9. This is considered to be a low risk issue.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

10. High standards of conduct are critical to the Council's Governance and organisational effectiveness.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

11. An assessment is not considered to be required.

CONSULTATION

12. The Cabinet Member and Group Leaders were consulted about the proposal prior to the report to Cabinet.

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Background Papers: none

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors: not ward specific

Property Implications: not applicable