

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

3 July 2019

Present – Councillors Ireton (Chairman), Mercer, Metcalfe, Solloway and Whitaker.

Parish Representatives (non-voting): Veronicka Dancer, Michael Rooze and Robert Stead.

Independent Persons (non-voting): Roger Millin.

Officers – Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) and Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from Independent Persons John Boumphrey and Peter Charlesworth.

Start: 6.30pm

Finish: 7.11pm

The minutes of the Committee's meeting held on 13 March 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Minutes for Report

STN.360

WORK PROGRAMME 2019/2020

The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) presented a report asking Members to consider and set the work programme for 2019/2020. Members were reminded of the work completed by the Committee during 2018/2019, the Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) made particular reference to the work completed relating to the Code of Conduct. The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) suggested that the Committee's work programme is oriented around the CSPL List of Best Practice.

Members proposed the addition of reviewing the Officers Code of Conduct to the Work Programme.

The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring officer) clarified that the work programme for the year of 2019/2020 would contain the following actions:

- Review of the integration of the '7 principles of public life'
- Review and implement recommendations on the CSPL List of Best Practice
- Review the Officers Code of Conduct
- Review the Member Officer Protocol

Resolved – (1) That, Members noted the work completed by the Committee during 2018/2019 and agreed the Committee's work programme for 2019/2020.

STN.361

THE COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ETHICAL STANDARDS

The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) presented a report to Members that provided an update on how the Council's ethical framework compares with the best practice recommendations included in the recent report from the Committee on Standards in Public Life.

The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) proposed that over the course of the year the Committee would review each of the best practice recommendations and consider what actions, if any, are required to implement the recommendations. The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) explained her findings from the preliminary review carried out by categorising the recommendations.

It was suggested that the recommendations relating to complaints handling should be considered at the November 2019 meeting, the Code of Conduct recommendations at the January 2020 meeting and recommendations of corporate nature should be discussed with the Chief Executive, the outcome of which the Solicitor to the Council will feedback to Committee.

The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) also informed Members that the CSPL intend to review implementation of the best practice in 2020.

Resolved – (1) That, Members noted the content of the report and the action to be taken.

STN.362

MONITORING REPORT

The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) submitted a report that updated Members following the last report to Committee on 13th March 2019. The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) informed Members that all complaints were completed and up to date.

Resolved – (1) That, Members noted the contents of the Monitoring Report.

STN.363

MEETING START TIME

After a short discussion it was;

Resolved – (1) That, the meeting start time for the municipal year would stay the same as the previous year, 6.30pm.

Minutes for decision

Chairman