

NON-EXEMPT

EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Standards Committee

8 September 2020

Draft LGA Model Code of Conduct
David Brown, Head of Legal Services

FOR DECISION

Portfolio: Governance & Legal, Cllr N Drew

Key Decision: No

1.0 Purpose of the paper

- 1.1 To invite the Committee to review the Local Government Association (LGA) Draft Model Code of Conduct that went out to consultation from 8 June 2020 to 15 August 2020.
- 1.2 To consider the model code against the draft in Appendix 2 which has been produced in response to the Standards Committee working group.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee notes the report the LGA Draft Model Code and requires the Monitoring Officer to respond as agreed by the Committee.
- 2.2 To recommend to the Constitution Group and full Council the adoption of the Code of Conduct at Appendix 2.
- 2.3 Delegate to the Monitoring Officer authority to make any minor inconsequential amendments to the Code of Conduct prior to approval at Full Council.

3.0 Executive summary

- 3.1 The consultation was based on the recommendations from the Standards in Public Life published earlier in 2019.
- 3.2 The Monitoring Officer sent a copy of the LGA consultation to all District Councillors and also the clerks to Town and Parish Councils in the District to enable them to make any comments to the LGA in June 2020.
- 3.3 It is understood that the feedback from the consultation will help the LGA develop a final draft, which will be reviewed by the LGA's Executive Advisory Board before being presented to the next LGA General Assembly, which we hope will be held in the Autumn of 2020.

- 3.4 The Monitoring Officer and Standards Committee established a small working group at its meeting on 9 September 2019 to review the recommendations of the Committee on Standards in Public Life.
- 3.5 The Working group reported back to the Committee at its meetings on 19 December 2019, with a number of findings and recommendations. These recommendations are attached as Appendix 1 to the report.
- 3.6 The Monitoring Officer, having read the draft document feels that it does not address all the opinions and recommendations of the Working Group or Committee. A draft Code of Conduct which seems to respond to all of the issues raised in the working groups is provided at Appendix 2.
- 3.7 It is recognised that the Committee may wish to amend and update the statement of values, but the draft is proffered for inclusion in the revised constitution and may be approved at full council.

4.0 Additional budgetary implications

- 4.1 None

5.0 Background and corporate strategy and directorate business plan(s)

- 5.1 This aligns with the constitutional review.

6.0 Options and reasons for recommending relevant option

- 6.1 n/a

7.0 Resource implications

- 7.1 n/a.

8.0 Legal implications

- 8.1 n/a

9.0 Significant risks

- 9.1 The draft is proposed to mitigate risks identified in the working group.

10.0 Consultation

This Committee.

11.0 Communication

n/a

Additional Papers

Appendix 1 – Working Group Recommendations to Standards Committee 19.12.19

Appendix 2 – Draft revised Code of Conduct for approval.

Agreed and Signed off by:

Monitoring Officer: 28 August 2020

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