



Local Government Association Model Code of Conduct

Corporate Priority:	All
Relevant Ward Member(s):	All
Date of consultation with Ward Member(s):	
Exempt Information:	No

1 Summary

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the Local Government Association’s (LGA) consultation on the model member Code of Conduct.

2 Recommendation(s)

That Audit and Standards Committee:

- 2.1 note the current consultation in regards to the LGA’s model Code of Conduct and provide any comments to the Monitoring Officer to feed into a response to the consultation.
- 2.2 recommend that the outcome of the consultation and the final version of the model member Code of Conduct be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

3 Reason for Recommendations

- 3.1 The Committee to consider whether it has any comments to make on the consultation.
- 3.2 The Committee to be presented with the final version of the model member Code of Conduct when it is published (expected in the autumn) and at that time consider whether any changes are required to the Council’s member Code of Conduct.

4 Background

- 4.1 The Local Government Association is providing a model member Code of Conduct as part of its work on supporting the sector to continue to aspire to high standards of leadership and performance.

5 Main Considerations

- 5.1 The LGA has committed to reviewing the current model member Code of Conduct, as recommended by the Committee on Standards in Public Life's report into Local Government Ethical Standards.
- 5.2 The LGA held an event on Civility in Public Life with a range of stakeholders at the end of 2019 and three consultation workshops at the beginning of 2020. The LGA consultation draft model member Code of Conduct is a result of this initial work.
- 5.3 The LGA has published the model member Code of Conduct for consultation. This is available to view on the LGA's website - <https://www.local.gov.uk/localgovernment-association-model-member-code-conduct>.
- 5.4 The consultation will run for 10 weeks from Monday 8 June 2020 until Monday 17 August 2020.
- 5.5 A comparison between the Council's member Code of Conduct and the consultation model member Code of Conduct has been made and this is attached to the report at Appendix B.

6 Options Considered

- 6.1 There are no alternative options at this time as the Committee is being informed of the consultation.

7 Consultation

- 7.1 The Monitoring Officers across Leicestershire and Rutland are collaborating on the views provided to the LGA.

8 Next Steps – Implementation and Communication

- 8.1 Following the Committee meeting the monitoring officers across Leicestershire will meet to co-ordinate and finalise the response to the consultation.

9 Financial Implications

- 9.1 There are no specific finance or risk implications arising from this report

Financial Implications reviewed by: Director for Corporate Services

10 Legal and Governance Implications

- 10.1 Section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 places a duty on local authorities to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Councillors and co-opted Members of the authority. Section 27(2) requires local authorities to adopt a code dealing with the conduct of Councillors and co-opted Members when they are acting in those capacities.
- 10.2 Section 28 of the Localism Act deals specifically with the code of conduct. The code of conduct adopted must be consistent with the general principles of public life.

Legal Implications reviewed by: Director for Governance and Regulatory Services

11 Equality and Safeguarding Implications

- 11.1 There are no equality considerations as a result of this Report.

12 Community Safety Implications

- 12.1 There are no specific community safety implications as a result of this Report.

13 Environmental and Climate Change Implications

- 13.1 There are no environmental or climate change implications as a result of this decision.

14 Other Implications (where significant)

- 14.1 There are no other implications as a result of this decision.

15 Risk & Mitigation

- 15.1 There are no risks with the decision required.

16 Background Papers

- 16.1 There are no specific background papers.

17 Appendices

Appendix A – LGA’s Model Member Code of Conduct

Appendix B – Comparison of Melton Borough Council’s Code of Conduct with the Draft Model Member Code of Conduct

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