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NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

16 March 2022

Chairman: Councillor Neil Poole

Venue: Conference Room,
Church Square House

Time: 2.00 pm

E-Mail Address:

AGENDA

1. Substitutions (if any)
2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests.
3. To take the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 10 November 2021 as a correct record and authorise the chairman to sign. (Pages 1 - 2)
4. Standards Training Session - 29 March 2022, 2pm
5. Complaints Schedule - Update. (Pages 3 - 8)
6. Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent by reason of special circumstances which must be specified.

Note: Reports are by the Director: Governance & Communities unless otherwise stated.

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NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

10 November 2021

PRESENT: - N Poole (Chairman)

J England (Vice-Chair), M Ali, H Rayner and D Wells

Mr A Forbes, Mr R Johnson (Independent Persons)

The meeting was held at the UTC Building, Carlton Street, Scunthorpe.

383 **SUBSTITUTIONS (IF ANY)**

Cllr Rayner substituted for Cllr O’Sullivan.

384 **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS.**

Cllr Wells declared a personal interest as a member of ERNLLCA.

385 **TO TAKE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2021 AS A CORRECT RECORD AND AUTHORISE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN.**

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting of this committee held on 15 September 2021, having been printed and circulated amongst the members, be taken as read and correctly recorded and be signed by the chairman.

386 **RENEWAL OF DISPENSATION - STEEL INDUSTRY**

The Director: Governance & Partnerships submitted a report requesting that the Standards Committee consider renewing the dispensation granted to all elected members on 6 November 2015, and renewed each subsequent year, concerning motions related to British Steel (formerly Tata Steel).

The Monitoring Officer explained that this dispensation had been granted in November 2015, and renewed annually, in order to participate in any motion or discussion concerning British Steel and the steel industry. Further details, including the terms of the dispensation, were set out in the report.

As the dispensation was due to expire on 11 November 2021 the committee was asked to consider extending the dispensation for a further twelve months, taking into account the continued interest in the steel industry, and the likelihood that the council would wish to discuss related issues.

Resolved – That pursuant to section 33 (2) (c) of the Localism Act 2011, the dispensation granted by the committee on 6 November 2015, and subsequently renewed annually, be renewed for a further twelve month

STANDARDS COMMITTEE
10 November 2021

period.

387 STANDARDS COMMITTEE - CODE OF CONDUCT AND ARRANGEMENTS

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report proposing a number of relatively minor amendments to the Standards Arrangements and the Code of Conduct, in response to recently published guidance from the Local Government Association (LGA). The Monitoring Officer explained that any amendments to the Code of Conduct would need to be submitted to full council for consideration.

The Monitoring Officer reminded the Standards Committee that, at its meeting on 15 September 2021 (minute 380 refers), members agreed that the LGA Code and associated guidance were largely aligned with current arrangements in North Lincolnshire and that members felt that wholesale changes to the Council's Code of Conduct and Standards Arrangements were not considered necessary. Despite this, the Committee agreed that some minor amendments and improvements could be made to the Code of Conduct and Standards Arrangements. The Committee therefore requested that the Monitoring Officer review the Code of Conduct and Standards Arrangements in light of the LGA guidance and emerging sector practice and suggest potential changes.

The Monitoring Officer highlighted each proposed amendment in turn, inviting comments from the Committee.

Recommended to Council – (a) That the proposed amendments to the Code of Conduct, as outlined in the report be approved and adopted, (b) that the proposed amendments to the local Standards Arrangements, as outlined in the report be approved and adopted; and (c) that the Monitoring Officer update all North Lincolnshire members, and all town and parish councils within North Lincolnshire, following the meeting of Council on 14 December 2021.

388 COMPLAINTS SCHEDULE - UPDATE.

The Director: Governance & Partnerships submitted a report updating the Standards Committee on progress made on all outstanding complaints and any relevant issues related to the Complaints Schedule.

Resolved - That the report be noted.

389 ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH MUST BE SPECIFIED.

There were no other items for consideration at the meeting.

Complaint	Complainant	Complaint against	Received	Assessed	Outcome
SC/20/01	Three members of the public	Member of Garthorpe & Fockerby Parish Council	28 February 2020	29 July 2020	Investigation and Hearing – now concluded
SC/20/02	Member of the public	Member of Kirton in Lindsey Town Council	9 March 2020	10 June 2020	None
SC/20/03	Member of the public	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	27 May 2020	11 November 2020	None
SC/20/04	Member of the public	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	17 June 2020	29 July 2020	None
SC/20/05	Member of the public	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	6 July 2020	29 July 2020	None
SC/20/06	Member of the public	Two members of North Lincolnshire Council	14 October 2020	15 December 2020	None
SC/20/07	Member of the public	Member of South Killingholme Parish Council	21 October 2020	15 December 2020	None
SC/20/08	Member of Barrow-upon-Humber Parish Council	Two members of Barrow-upon-Humber Parish Council	28 October 2020	11 November 2020	Recommendation of mediation
SC/20/09	Member of Barrow-upon-Humber Parish	Member of Barrow-upon-Humber Parish Council	16 November 2020	14 January 2021	Investigation, now concluded due to

	Council				resignation
SC/20/10	Officer of Goxhill Parish Council	Member of Goxhill Parish Council	18 November 2020	14 January 2021	Investigation
SC/20/11	Member of Barrow-upon-Humber Parish Council	Member of Barrow-upon-Humber Parish Council	23 November 2020	14 January 2021	Investigation, now withdrawn
SC/20/12	Three Members of Epworth Town Council	Three Members of Epworth Town Council	23 December 2020	16 February 2021	2 members – none 1 member – investigated but no breach found
SC/21/01	Member of Goxhill Parish Council	Member of Goxhill Parish Council	12 January 2021	16 February 2021	Investigation
SC/21/02	Officer of Epworth Town Council	Member of Epworth Town Council	10 February 2021	25 March 2021	None
SC/21/03	Member of the public	Member of Garthorpe & Fockerby Parish Council	16 February 2021	29 June 2021	None
SC/21/04	Member of the public	Two members of Haxey Parish Council	03 March 2021	15 April 2021	None
SC/21/05	Member of the public	Member of South Ferriby Parish Council	04 March 2021	29 June 2021	None
SC/21/06	Member of the public	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	19 March 2021	29 June 2021	None
SC/21/07	Member of the public	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	23 March 2021	8 July	None
SC/21/08	Member of the public	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	23 March 2021	8 July	None

SC/21/09	Member of Broughton Town Council	Member of Broughton Town Council	26 March 2021	29 June 2021	None
SC/21/10	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	Two members of North Lincolnshire Council	19 April 2021	8 July 2021	None
SC/21/11	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	Two members of North Lincolnshire Council	19 April 2021	8 July 2021	Investigation
SC/21/12	Member of the public	Member of Worlaby Parish Council	22 April 2021	8 July 2021	None
SC/21/13	Member of the public	Thirteen members of Haxey Parish Council	29 April 2021	8 July 2021	None
SC/21/14	Member of the public	Two members of Burton upon Stather Parish Council	12 May 2021	8 July 2021	None
SC/21/15	Member of the public	Member of Burton upon Stather Parish Council	9 June 2021	8 July 2021	None
SC/21/16	Member of Goxhill Parish Council	Member of Goxhill Parish Council	9 July 2021	1 September 2021	None
SC/21/17	Member of Kirton upon Lindsey Town Council	Member of Kirton upon Lindsey Town Council	9 July 2021	1 September 2021	None
SC/21/18	Member of Kirton upon Lindsey Town Council	Member of Kirton upon Lindsey Town Council	9 July 2021	1 September 2021	Investigation
SC/21/19	Member of the public	Member of Kirton upon Lindsey Town Council	9 July 2021	1 September 2021	None
SC/21/20	Member of Kirton upon Lindsey Town Council	Member of Kirton upon Lindsey Town Council	13 July 2021	1 September 2021	None
SC/21/21	Member of Belton Parish Council	Three Members of Belton Parish Council	15 July 2021	1 September 2021	None
SC/21/22	Member of Belton Parish Council	Three Members of Belton Parish Council	15 July 2021	1 September 2021	None
SC/21/23	Member of Belton Parish Council	Member of Belton Parish Council	19 August 2021	1 September 2021	None
SC/21/24	Member of Belton Parish Council	Three Members of Belton Parish Council	19 August 2021	27 September 2021	Recommendation of mediation
SC/21/25	Member of the public	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	23 August 2021	1 September 2021	None

SC/21/26	Member of Belton Parish Council	Three Member of Belton Parish Council	16 September 2021	14 October 2021	Investigation
SC/21/27	Member of Owston Ferry Parish Council	Member of Owston Ferry Parish Council	13 October 2021	15 December 2021	Investigation
SC/21/28	Member of Burringham Parish Council	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	25 October 2021	15 December 2021	None
SC/21/29	Member of Belton Parish Council	Member of Belton Parish Council	25 October 2021	15 December 2021	Investigation
SC/21/30	Member of the public	Member of Burton upon Stather Parish Council	25 October 2021	15 December 2021	Investigation
SC/21/31	Member of Burton upon Stather Parish Council	Member of Burton upon Stather Parish Council	9 November 2021	15 December 2021	Investigation
SC/21/32	Member of the public	Member of Flixborough Parish Council	11 November 2021	15 December 2021	None
SC/21/33	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	11 November 2021	15 December 2021	Investigation
SC/21/34	Member of the public	Member of Belton Parish Council	16 November 2021	15 December 2021	None
SC/21/35	Member of Epworth Town Council	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	18 November 2021	15 December 2021	None
SC/21/36	Member of the public	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	22 November 2021		
SC/21/37	Member of the public	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	6 December 2021		
SC/22/01	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	Five Members of North Lincolnshire Council	13 January 2022		
SC/22/02	Member of the public	Member of Goxhill Parish Council	18 January 2022		
SC/22/03	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	19 January 2022		
SC/22/04	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	Member of North Lincolnshire Council	19 January 2022		
SC/22/05	Member of the public	Member of Worlaby Parish	2 February 2022		

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