

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

STANDARDS COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the annual report of the Standards Committee under the Council's standards regime for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 This report attached (as appendix 1) is the eleventh annual report of the Standards Committee under its standards regime and associated published Standards Arrangements following the Localism Act 2011. The report covers the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 and details the work and activities of the Standards Committee throughout that time.
- 2.2 The report is presented to the Standards Committee for discussion and to take any action the Committee deems necessary. Typically, the Committee requests that, upon approval, the Monitoring Officer provide a copy to all Town and Parish Councils in the area. The agreed report will also be submitted to Council in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Annual Governance Statement.
- 2.3 Following receipt of this report, the Monitoring Officer will provide the annual training sessions to Standards Committee and Town and Parish Council members, using the report to inform the itinerary.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 The Committee may wish to consider ongoing developments, current trends, and other methods to ensure that the local standards regime remains robust.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 There are no recommended options, but members may wish to explore specific actions. Officers will be on hand to provide advice and guidance.

5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)

5.1 The financial, practical and resource implications arising from supporting local standards arrangements are co-ordinated by the Monitoring Officer and his staff, and are overseen by the Standards Committee.

6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)

6.1 Allegations of potential criminal wrongdoing are passed to Humberside Police for consideration. A referral pathway has been in place for several years and has proven effective.

6.2 Equalities issues under the Equalities Act 2010 have been considered and are not thought to be relevant to consideration of this report. The standards regime remains open to all.

6.3 This report helps to promote the aims of the Council Plan by supporting the “enabling communities to flourish” priority. It also complements the promises in the Council Plan to “maintain high standards” and to “be open, trustworthy and honest”.

6.4 There are no environmental issues related to this report.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

7.1 The completion of an Integrated Impact Assessment is not required.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

8.1 The Standards Committee regularly responds to consultations on standards issues.

8.2 Regular contact is maintained with elected councillors and clerks of all Town and Parish Councils in North Lincolnshire, including through the annual provision of training.

8.3 There are no conflicts of interest identified.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That the Standards Committee consider the draft report, taking action as deemed appropriate.
- 9.2 That the Standards Committee consider requesting that the Monitoring Officer provide a copy of the approved report be forwarded to all Town and Parish Councils in the area.
- 9.3 That the Standards Committee request the Monitoring Officer to submit the approved annual report to Council for further discussion, in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Annual Governance Statement.

DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE & COMMUNITIES

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report –

Published Standards Arrangements
Standards Committee – Annual Report 2021/22