

## **NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **COUNCIL**

#### **STANDARDS COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023**

##### **1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 To receive the annual report of the Standards Committee under the Council's Standards Arrangements for the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 to 30 June 2023.
- 1.2 To consider a review of Part E Code 3 'Protocol on Member/Officer Relations' in accordance with Article 15 (15.01) 'Review and Revision of the Constitution'.

##### **2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 This report attached as an appendix is the eleventh annual report of the Standards Committee under its Standards Arrangements pursuant to the Localism Act 2011. The report covers the period 1 July to 30 June 2023 and details the work and activities of the Standards Committee throughout that time.
- 2.2 The Standards Committee approved the report at its meeting on 29 June 2023 with a request that the Monitoring Officer provide a copy to all Town and Parish Councils in the area.
- 2.4 The Monitoring Officer will continue to deal with relevant legislation and guidance, deal with complaints against councillors, and provide training to North Lincolnshire Council and town and parish members and clerks, using the report to inform the itinerary. Training has been delivered in person and remotely this year on 6 and 7 September 2023 with over 60 councillors in attendance across both sessions. Also, an online training package is also being developed by Democratic Services, which will be available to all councillors across North Lincolnshire in the coming months.
- 2.5 In accordance with good practice to review regularly codes and protocols contained within Part E of the council's Constitution, the Leader of the Council and his Executive have requested that Part E Code 3 'Protocol on Member/Officer Relations' be reviewed. Complying with the

requirements of Article 15 (15.01) 'Review and Revision of the Constitution' this review will be carried out through the Standards Committee and its recommendations reported to the meeting of the Council scheduled for 1 December 2023 for approval.

### **3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

3.1 There are alternative options associated with council receiving the Annual report. It is for Council to receive the report from the Standards Committee.

### **4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 There are no options associated with the annual report.

4.2 A review of Part E Code 3 'Protocol on Member/Officer Relations' is in accordance with good practice, will be carried out in accordance with Article 15 'Review and Revision of the Constitution', and will also provide members who are not members of the Standards Committee the opportunity to attend the Standards Committee through the usual Council Procedure Rule D1.37b.

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

5.1 There are no resource implications arising from this report.

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

6.1 This report contributes to the Council's Annual Governance Statement and follows best practice recommended by the Committee on Standards in Public Life.

### **7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

7.1 No integrated impact assessment is required for this report given its nature.

### **8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

8.1 The Standards Committee approved the report at its meeting on 29 June 2023 and requested that a copy be provided to all Town and Parish Councils in the area. This has been attended to and no comments have been received.

8.2 No conflicts of interest have been identified or declared arising from this report.

## 9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That the report of the Standards Committee for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 be received.

9.2 A review of Part E Code 3 'Protocol on Member/Officer Relations' be carried out in accordance with paragraph 2.5 of the Director's report.

## DIRECTOR: OUTCOMES

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Date: 15 September 2023

**Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:** Annual Report of the North Lincolnshire Council's Standards Committee 2022/2023.  
Council Constitution: Article 15 'Review and Revision of the Constitution' and Part E Code 3 'Protocol on Member/Officer Relations'.