

<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>DRAFT MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT ANNUAL REPORT</b>	
<b>Presented by</b>	Elizabeth Warhurst Head of Legal and Support Services and Monitoring Officer	
<b>Background Papers</b>	<a href="#">The Localism Act 2011</a>  The current Councillors' Code of Conduct is available on the Council's <a href="#">website</a> and in the <a href="#">Constitution</a> .	<b>Public Report:</b> Yes
<b>Financial Implications</b>	There are no financial implications to be considered.	
	<b>Signed off by the Section 151 Officer:</b> Yes	
<b>Legal Implications</b>	The report details complaints made to the Monitoring Officer under the Code of Conduct for the period 2023/24, which is based on the Local Government Association Model Code of Conduct. The report also allows the work and purposes of the Audit and Governance Committee to be communicated to the public.	
	<b>Signed off by the Monitoring Officer:</b> Yes	
<b>Staffing and Corporate Implications</b>	None arising from the report. The purpose of the Audit and Governance Committee is to oversee the Council's corporate governance.	
	<b>Signed off by the Head of Paid Service:</b> Yes	
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To receive and note the draft Annual Report and authorise the Head of Legal and Support Services and Monitoring Officer to make any minor amendments before being recommended to Council.	
<b>Recommendations</b>	1) <b>THAT THE DRAFT MEMBER CONDUCT ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24 BE RECEIVED AND NOTED;</b>  2) <b>THAT AUTHORITY BE DELEGATED TO THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND SUPPORT SERVICES AND MONITORING OFFICER TO MAKE ANY MINOR AMENDMENTS TO THE REPORT FOLLOWING COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE;</b>  3) <b>THAT COUNCIL BE RECOMMENDED TO ENDORSE THE MEMBER CONDUCT ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24.</b>	

## 1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 It is important that the work of the Audit and Governance Committee should be visible to the Council and wider public. It is felt that the annual report acts as a helpful tool in communicating the work undertaken by the Audit and Governance Committee to the public and to Members.
- 1.2 The Committee is recommended to receive and note the draft Member Conduct Annual Report 2023/24 and authorise the Head of Legal and Support Services and Monitoring Officer to make any necessary amendments following comments from this Committee before being recommended to Council in June 2024 for endorsement.

<b>Policies and other considerations, as appropriate</b>	
Council Priorities:	A well-run Council, ensuring our services are provided in a positive and friendly way.
Policy Considerations:	Code of Conduct and the Constitution.
Safeguarding:	N/a
Equalities/Diversity:	Detailed in the Annual Report attached as an appendix.
Customer Impact:	N/a
Economic and Social Impact:	N/a
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon	N/a
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	N/a
Risks:	By reporting on complaints made under the Member Code of Conduct to the Monitoring Officer and ensuring the Code of Conduct is kept under review by the Committee, and endorsed by Full Council, the Council can ensure that Members are aware of their obligations under the Code and mitigate risks associated with misconduct and non-compliance.
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