

## STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

**Date and Time:-** Thursday 12 September 2024 at 2.00 p.m.

**Venue:-** Rotherham Town Hall, The Crofts, Moorgate Street, Rotherham. S60 2TH

**Membership:-** Councillors Monk (Chair), Clarke (Vice-Chair), Beck, T. Collingham, Hall, Hughes, Jackson, Keenan, Mr. A. Buckley and Mrs. M. Carroll.

**Independent Co-optees:-** Mrs. A. Bingham, Mr. P. Edler and Mrs. K. Penney.

**Independent Persons:-** Mr. P. Beavers and Mr. D. Roper-Newman.

The items which will be discussed are described on the agenda below and there are reports attached which give more details.

Rotherham Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes. Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair or Governance Advisor of their intentions prior to the meeting.

### AGENDA

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

To receive the apologies of any Member who is unable to attend today's meeting.

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest from Members in respect of items listed on the agenda.

#### 3. Exclusion of Press and Public

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any part of the agenda.

Under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for Agenda Items 6 and 7 (Consideration of Whistleblowing Policy and Complaints) on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

**4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th June, 2024 (Pages 3 - 4)**

To consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 as a true and correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chair.

**5. The Civility and Respect Pledge**

To receive a presentation and update on progress.

**6. A Review of Concerns Raised Pursuant to the Whistleblowing Policy (Pages 5 - 14)**

To give consideration to a report regarding concerns raised pursuant to the Whistleblowing Policy and the actions taken to address these matters.

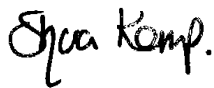
**7. Review of Complaint (Pages 15 - 21)**

To give consideration to a report updating the Committee on the Complaints received against Members of the Council, and Town and Parish Councillors alleging a breach of the Code of Conduct.

**8. Urgent Business**

To determine any item which the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

**The next meeting of the Standards and Ethics Committee will  
be held on Thursday 14 November 2024  
commencing at 2.00 p.m.  
in Rotherham Town Hall.**



**SHARON KEMP OBE,  
Chief Executive.**

**STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE**  
**13th June, 2024**

Present:- Councillor Monk (in the Chair); Councillors T. Collingham, Clarke, Hall, along with Parish Councillors Mr. A. Buckley and Mrs. M. Carroll and also Independent Member Mr. P. Edler.

Also in attendance was Mr. P. Beavers, Independent Person.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Beck, Hughes and Keenan, Independent Members Mrs. A. Bingham and Mrs. K. Penney and Mr. D. Roper-Newman, Independent Person.

**1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest to report.

**2. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Resolved:-** That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for Minute Nos. 4 and 5 (Whistleblowing Policy and Complaints) on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 7TH MARCH, 2024**

**Resolved:-** That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 be approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chair.

**4. A REVIEW OF CONCERNS RAISED PURSUANT TO THE WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY**

Consideration was given to the report and appendix presented by the Deputy Monitoring Officer, which provided an overview of the Whistleblowing cases which have been received over the past year.

Particular reference was made to the appendix to the report which set out clearly the description of the concerns received and action taken.

**Resolved:-** That the Whistleblowing concerns raised over the previous year and the actions taken to address these matters be noted.

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**5. REVIEW OF COMPLAINTS**

Consideration was given to the report presented by the Deputy Monitoring Officer, detailing the progress with the handling of complaints relating to breaches of the Council's Code of Conduct for Members and Town and Parish Councillors. The report listed the current cases of complaint and the action being taken in respect of each one.

Reference was made to each related case and recommended outcomes/actions identified were highlighted.

Discussion ensued on the level of support afforded to complainants and subject members and how best this could be facilitated if it was deemed appropriate. Further research would be undertaken to determine how best those involved could be signposted to support services.

**Resolved:-** That the report be received and the contents noted.

**6. URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no urgent items of business requiring the Committee's consideration.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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