STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

Date and Time:- **Thursday 12 November 2026 at 2.00 p.m.**

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

Membership:- **Councillors Clarke (Chair), Harper (Vice-Chair), Brent, T. Collingham, Cowen, Currie, Hall and McKiernan.**

Parish Council Representatives:- Mr. A. Griffin and Mr. M. Senior.

Independent Members:- Mrs. A. Bingham, Mrs. K. Penney and Ms. R. Wright.

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 8 and 9 (Consideration of Whistleblowing Policy and Complaints) on the grounds that their appendices

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 10th September, 2026 (Pages 3 - 11)

To consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th September, 2026 as a true and correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chair.

5. LGA Debate Not Hate Survey 2026: Councillor Safety, Abuse and Intimidation (Pages 13 - 91)

To consider and notes the findings of the LGA Debate Not Hate Survey 2026.

6. Solace Commission on Professional Standards and Ethics - "Enough is Enough" Report (Pages 93 - 158)

To consider and note the publication and principal findings of the Solace report; and the report's recommendations insofar as they relate to member conduct, member-officer relationships and governance.

7. Strengthening the Standards and Conduct Regime for Local Authorities in England - Update (Pages 159 - 163)

To consider and note the Government proposals and the current position, and receives further updates as the necessary legislation and implementation arrangements develop.

8. A Review of Concerns Raised Pursuant to the Whistleblowing Policy (Pages 165 - 172)

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

9. Review of Complaints (Pages 173 - 180)

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.

10. 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 January 2027 commencing at 2.00 p.m. in Rotherham Town Hall.



JOHN EDWARDS,
Chief Executive.