



IAN DAVIDSON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, TOWN HALL, STATION ROAD, CLACTON-ON-SEA, ESSEX, CO15 1SE. TELEPHONE (01255) 686868

### STANDARDS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, 24 April 2024

TIME: 10.00 am

VENUE: Essex Hall - Town Hall, Station Road,

Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 1SE

**MEMBERSHIP:** 

Councillor Talbot (Chairman)
Councillor Wiggins (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Ferguson
Councillor J Henderson

Councillor Land Councillor Newton Councillor Oxley

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE ESSEX HALL AND NOT THE COMMITTEE ROOM WHICH IS UNAVAILABLE ON THIS OCCASION.

AGENDA

Most Council meetings are open to the public and press. The space for the public and press will be made available on a first come first served basis. Agendas are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date and the Council aims to publish Minutes within five working days of the meeting. Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, or on disc, tape, or in other languages.

This meeting will be filmed by the Council for live and/or subsequent broadcast on the Council's website. The whole of the meeting will be filmed, except where there are confidential or exempt items, and the footage will be on the website for up to 24 months (the Council retains one full year of recordings and the relevant proportion of the current Municipal Year). The Council will seek to avoid/minimise footage of members of the public in attendance at, or participating in, the meeting. In addition, the Council is obliged by law to allow members of the public to take photographs, film, audio record and report on the proceedings at public meetings. The Council will only seek to prevent this should it be undertaken in a disruptive or otherwise inappropriate manner.

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DATE OF PUBLICATION: Tuesday, 16 April 2024

#### **AGENDA**

### 1 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

The Committee is asked to note any apologies for absence and substitutions received from Members.

### 2 Minutes of the Last Meeting (Pages 5 - 12)

To confirm and sign as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee, held on Wednesday 20 March 2024.

#### 3 Declarations of Interest

Councillors are invited to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registerable Interests of Non-Registerable Interests, and the nature of it, in relation to any item on the agenda.

#### 4 Questions on Notice pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 38

Subject to providing two working days' notice, a Member of the Committee may ask the Chairman of the Committee a question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties which affect the Tendring District **and** which falls within the terms of reference of the Committee.

# 5 Report of the Monitoring Officer - A.1 - Annual Report on Declarations of Interest and Associated Matters (Pages 13 - 20)

To present the Committee with an overview on the register of, and declarations of, interests made by Members from 1 January 2023 until 31 March 2024.

## Report of the Monitoring Officer - A.2 - Members' Code of Conduct Complaints Procedure - Hearing Procedure (Pages 21 - 30)

To present the Standards Committee with a proposed updated Hearing Procedure, reflecting best practice and case law, for consideration for approval supplementing the Council's Complaints Procedure dealing with allegations that a Member has breached the Code of Conduct.

### 7 <u>Draft Committee Work Plan for 2024/2025</u> (Pages 31 - 32)

The Committee is invited to give consideration to its draft Work Plan for the 2024/2025 Municipal Year.

### 8 Complaints Update (Pages 33 - 34)

The Committee will receive the Monitoring Officer's update regarding standards complaints.

### **Date of the Next Scheduled Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting of the Standards Committee is to be held in the Committee Room - Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 1SE at 10.00 am on Thursday, 16 May 2024.

### **Information for Visitors**

### FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE

There is no alarm test scheduled for this meeting. In the event of an alarm sounding, please calmly make your way out of any of the fire exits in the hall and follow the exit signs out of the building.

Please heed the instructions given by any member of staff and they will assist you in leaving the building and direct you to the assembly point.

Please do not re-enter the building until you are advised it is safe to do so by the relevant member of staff.

Your calmness and assistance is greatly appreciated.