

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Council	
MEETING DATE:	10th October 2019	
TITLE:	Standards Committee Annual report 2018-19 and addition to the Code of Conduct	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1 - Standards Committee Annual report 2018-19 Appendix 2 – Advice note for Councillors on Bullying and Harassment		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 To consider the Standards Committee Annual report, and further consider their recommendation for an addition to the Code of Conduct within the Constitution.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Council is asked to;

- 2.1 Note the work of the Standards Committee as set out in the Annual report (attached as Appendix 1);
- 2.2 Note the recommendation from the Standards Committee to adopt the Advice note for Councillors on Bullying and Harassment (attached as Appendix 2) as Appendix 4 to the Code of Conduct.

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 The Standards Committee is responsible for the promotion of ethical standards within the Authority, helping to secure adherence to the Members' Code of Conduct, monitoring the operation of the Code within Bath & North East Somerset Council, conducting hearings following investigation, and determining complaints made against Councillors in respect of alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct.

3.2 The Standards Committee agreed it would provide an annual report to the Council summarising the work of the Committee over the previous year.

3.3 At its meeting on 4th July 2019, the Standards Committee considered the Advice note attached at Appendix 2 and, following some debate and a minor amendment, agreed to recommend that Council adopt this as an appendix to the Code of Conduct, which forms part of the Council's Constitution.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 The Standards Committee is not required to produce an annual report; however, it is good practice to do so.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

5.1 No direct implications.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 Adherence to robust standards of conduct mitigates against potential complaints about standards issues.

7 CLIMATE CHANGE

7.1 This is an internal matter so climate change considerations are not relevant.

8 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 None.

9 CONSULTATION

9.1 This report has been cleared by the Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer.

Contact person	<i>Maria Lucas, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer (01225) 395171</i>
Background papers	<i>None.</i>
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