



Committee and date

Council

08 May 2014

Item

12

Public

REVISED CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

Responsible Officer Claire Porter

Email: claire.porter@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01743352763

Fax:

1. Summary

At a meeting of the Council held on the 3rd of May 2012, a Code of Conduct for members was approved. The Committee on Standards in Public Life has now amended the General Principles of Conduct expected of public figures which are currently included in the Code of Conduct. Having regard to further guidance from the Department of Communities and Local Government, a new code of conduct is proposed.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the draft Code of Conduct appended to the report be approved and adopted with immediate effect.**
- 2.2 **That members notify the Monitoring Officer of any Trade Union interests that they have for inclusion in the Public Register of Interests**

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

The Council is required by the Localism Act 2011 to adopt a code of conduct which is consistent with the general principles of Standards in Public Life in order to demonstrate the promotion of good ethical governance. Failure to approve a suitable code will be a breach of the legislation and a failure to demonstrate the effective promotion of ethical governance.

It provides an opportunity to retain confidence in the ethical governance of the authority and demonstrates a commitment to public accountability for the actions of the members.

4. Financial Implications

No direct implications.

5. Background

- 5.1 A review has been carried out by the Committee of Standards in Public Life with regard to the general principles expected of public figures. The changes which were agreed amend the descriptions of the general principles which are included in the current code of conduct.
- 5.2 Guidance from the Department for Communities and Local Government has highlighted the need for members to register any trade union interests they have in the public register of interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer
- 5.3 The Department for Communities and Local Government has also issued a revised draft Code of Conduct for use by Local Authorities and this has been used as the basis for the revised code attached to this report for adoption.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)
None
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)
Keith Barrow
Local Member
All
Appendices
Draft Code of Conduct