

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of **GOVERNANCE, ETHICS AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE** held on Thursday, 7 March 2024 at Committee Room 1, County Hall, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3AG.

PRESENT

Councillor S Swann (in the Chair)

Councillors R Flatley, K Gillott, L Grooby, D Muller, W Major, C Dale and S Hobson.

Also in attendance was H Barrington, J Lakin, and E Wild.

Apologies for absence were submitted for I Orford (Independent Member).

06/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

07/24 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Governance, Ethics and Standards Committee held on 18 January 2024 be confirmed as a correct record.

08/24 REVISIONS TO CONSTITUTION: BUDGET & POLICY FRAMEWORK POLICIES

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services H Barrington introduced a report, suggesting amendments to the list of Budget and Policy Framework policies and strategies in the Constitution and requesting referral of these amendments to full Council for approval.

RESOLVED to

1) agree the amended Policy Framework list as set out in the body of the report and refer it to full Council for approval and inclusion in Section D of Appendix 1 – Responsibility for Functions of the Constitution.

09/24 COMPLAINTS AGAINST ELECTED MEMBERS

Principal Solicitor E Wild introduced a report, informing the Committee of Code of Conduct complaints against Councillors received during the period of 1 October 2023 to 20 February 2024.

RESOLVED to

1) note the complaint received by the Monitoring Officer between 1st October 2023 to 20th February 2024 alleging that a Member had breached the Code of Conduct.

10/24 OFFICERS' DECLARATION OF INTERESTS POLICY

Assistant Director and Data Protection Officer J Lakin, introduced a report, providing an update in relation to the Officers' Declaration of Interests work which had been undertaken.

RESOLVED to

1) recommend that that Appointments and Conditions of Service Committee approve the Officers' Declaration of Interests Policy for inclusion in the Employee Code of Conduct.

11/24 REVISIONS TO CONSTITUTION: PETITION SCHEME

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services H Barrington introduced a report, outlining an amendment to the Petition Scheme in the Constitution to include a procedure for debate and refer the amendment to full Council for approval.

RESOLVED to

1) agree that the Petition Scheme be amended to include the procedure set out within the report, subject to the addition of a provision to permit the Chairman to extend the 15 minute period for debate at their discretion, whose decision shall be final, and refer the amendment to full Council for approval.