

Report to Standards Committee

Code of Conduct

Officer Contact and report author: Director of Legal Services

30th November 2023

Recommendation

Members are requested to consider the proposed amendment to the Code of Conduct and make a recommendation to Council.

1 Background

1.1 The Council have agreed a Members Code of Conduct which has been re-confirmed this year. A copy of the code of conduct is attached at Appendix 1.

At its meeting on the 12th July 2023, Council resolved to develop and adopt a mandatory duty to report safeguarding concerns, including child sexual abuse and exploitation, into the Members Code of Conduct.

The committee is asked to consider this matter and make a recommendation to Council. The proposed paragraph for insertion into the code of conduct would be at paragraph 11 would state:- "If any member has any safeguarding concerns, including child sexual abuse and exploitation, in connection with any person, it is the duty of the member to report these concerns to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)".

As a separate issue on a matter related to the code of conduct, the committee previously agreed that a complaint or investigation can be reinstated against a member who ceases to be in office if the person is re-elected within two years and the matter referred to the Standards Committee for consideration. It is recommended that such a consideration should be determined by the Standards Sub -Committee.

2 Financial Implications

2.1 N/A

3 Legal Services Comments

3.1 N/A

4	Co-operative Implications
4.1	N/A
5	Human Resources Comments
5.1	N/A
6	Risk Assessments
6.1	N/A
7	IT Implications
7.1	N/A
8	Property Implications
8.1	N/A
9	Procurement Implications
9.1	N/A
10	Environmental and Health & Safety Implications
10.1	N/A
11	Community cohesion disorder including crime and disorder implications Crime and Disorder Act 1998
11.1	N/A
12	Oldham Equality Impact Assessment including implications for Children and Young People)
12.1	As detailed in the report, this duty will assist in strengthening safeguarding.
13	Key Decision
13.1	N/A
14	Background Papers
14.1	None
15	Appendix
15.1	Members Code of Conduct

