

Audit and Standards Committee - 17th July, 2023

Report of the Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer)

Re-appointment of the Standards Sub-Committee

Purpose of Report

1. To confirm the re-appointment of the Standards Sub-Committee.

Recommendation

- 2. That the re-appointment of the Standards Sub-Committee for 2023/24, with its existing terms of reference, be confirmed.
- 3. That the Membership of the Sub-Committee comprise the Chair (Councillor A Lees), the Vice-Chair (Councillor D Borley) together with a Labour Member to be nominated at the meeting.

Background

- 4. In accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Council's Standards Arrangements, this Committee has previously agreed to appoint a Standards Sub-Committee.
- 5. The purpose of the Standards Sub-Committee is to hear and determine complaints against Members and Co-opted Members under the provisions of the Members' Code of Conduct and in accordance with local procedures.
- 6. The Sub-Committee comprises three elected members. Political proportionality is waived as to Membership and it is a matter for this Committee to decide the composition and membership.



7. In 2022/23, the Sub-Committee comprised the Chair (Councillor A Lees), the Vice-Chair (Councillor D Borley) and Councillor J Cowell.

Finance

8. The cost of holding meetings of the Sub-Committee are met from within existing resources.

Law

9. The relevant provisions are contained in the Localism Act, 2011 together with regulations, orders and statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State.

Risk Management

10. There are no material risks arising from this proposal in relation to the Council's Risk Management Framework.

Equality Impact

11. The Sub-Committee will hear and determine complaints about alleged breaches of the Local Code of Conduct requiring Members and Coopted Members to behave in a manner that is consistent with seven overriding principles so as to achieve best value for their residents and maintain public confidence in the Authority. The principles will have a bearing on issues such as equality.

Human Resources / Organisational Development

12. There are no direct Human Resources / Organisational Development implications.

Commercial / Procurement

13. There are no commercial or procurement implications.

Environment/Climate Change

14. There are no environmental/climate change issues associated with this report.

Council Priorities and Projects

15. The Standards Sub-Committee is part of the Council's governance arrangements in relation to Member Conduct. The Constitution underpins the delivery of key Council priorities including the Borough Vision, Council Plan and Future Council Programme.

Mohammed Farooq

Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer)

Report Author: Karen Taylor (Telephone: 01384 818116)

Email: karen.taylor@dudley.gov.uk

List of Background Papers

The Council's Constitution