

Standards and Ethics Committee

Wednesday, 21 October 2020, 10.00 am, Online only

		Minutes
Present:		Mr S J Mackay (Chairman), Mr R C Adams, Mr R M Bennett, Dr A J Hopkins, Dr K A Pollock, Mr R P Tomlinson and Mr R M Udall
Also attended:		Dr M Mylechreest
Available papers		The members had before them: A. The Agenda papers (previously circulated); B. The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2019 (previously circulated).
284	Apologies and Named Substitutes	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Peter Tomlinson and Independent Members Cliff Slade and Dr Philip Whiteman.
285	Declarations of Interest	None.
286	Public Participation	None.
287	Confirmation of Minutes	The minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2019 were approved as a correct record and would be signed by the Chairman.
288	Local Government Association Draft Member Code of Conduct	<p>The Committee considered the report enclosed with the agenda which set out details of progress with a proposed model Code of Conduct for Councillors being prepared by the Local Government Association. The Committee had considered a draft of the Code informally and some members had attended webinars hosted by the LGA about the content of the draft. Feedback submitted to the LGA on behalf of the Committee was enclosed with the report.</p> <p>The Committee note the current situation. Members commented that the pan-Worcestershire Code currently in operation was valued and would wish to be kept updated as the LGA draft passed through the LGA's approval process. It was agreed that the Committee would receive a further report about the LGA Code as appropriate.</p>

**289 Code of
Conduct -
Complaints
Update**

RESOLVED that

(a) The update about the LGA draft member Code of Conduct be noted; and

(b) A further report about the LGA Code of Conduct be considered once a final version has been published.

The Committee noted the update report setting out details of complaints about member conduct. The impact of Covid-19 on the timescales to review them was noted and the Committee was reassured that all members involved knew about the complaints made.

At this stage the Committee did not consider that any further action should be taken with regard to members being made aware of their obligations regarding the Code.

RESOLVED that the formal complaints made about the conduct of County Councillors and their outcome be noted.

The meeting ended at 10.30am

Chairman