

COUNCIL

9 NOVEMBER 2023

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(c) SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

Members Register of Interests

1. All elected members are required by law to complete a register of interests form to provide details of any financial or other interests that might give rise to a conflict of interest, when undertaking their duties as a councillor. Section 29 Localism Act 2011 requires monitoring officers of relevant authorities to establish and maintain a register of members' and co-opted members' interests, to make the register available for inspection and to publish it on their authority's website.
2. At its meeting on 16 March 2023, the Committee recommended that the Local Government Association member code of conduct be adopted by full Council as the County Council's Code of Conduct. To comply with the Code, members must now register two different categories of interests: Disclosable Pecuniary Interests; and Other registrable interests.
3. The Committee has agreed that the Members Register of Interests be updated so that it is in line with the Members Code of Conduct adopted at the Council meeting on 18 May 2023. This will enable members to register their other Registrable Interests as required by the Member Code of Conduct. A guidance note will also be prepared for members.

Member Code of Conduct Training

4. The Committee has agreed that a programme of training on the Members Code of Conduct be arranged with the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance being responsible for providing it. As part of these arrangements, the Committee has asked the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance to consider whether training should be provided online or in person and to facilitate training on the new Code of Conduct followed by annual refresher training thereafter.

Work Programme

5. The Committee has noted its work programme and requested that it be a standard item on future agendas.

Cllr David Chambers
Vice-Chairman

Contact Points

Specific Contact Points for this report
Simon Lewis, Committee Officer
Tel: 01905 846621
Email: slewis@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda papers for the meeting of the Standards and Ethics Committee held on 18 October 2023.

[Agenda for Standards and Ethics Committee on Wednesday, 18th October, 2023, 10.00 am - Worcestershire County Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)