

Item 4

REPORT TO STANDARDS COMMITTEE

27th April 2007

REPORT OF SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL AND MONITORING OFFICER

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REVISED MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The decision to amend the Code of Conduct so as to make it more effective and proportionate formed part of the Government's wider review of the conduct regime, the revised Code is clearer but maintains a rigorous approach to the identification of serious misconduct.
- 1.2 The revised Code of Conduct has been approved by the Government and will be coming into force on the 3rd May 2007.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Standards Committee note the changes and implementation of the revised Code of Conduct.
- 2.2 That by approval of full Council on the 29th June 2007, the Revised Code of Conduct be adopted unamended, that the Council adopts the 10 General Principles as an annex to the new Code; that Parish and Town Councils be advised to do likewise.
- 2.3 That consequential changes be made to the Council's Constitution.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1 On the 4th April 2007 the Government tabled in Parliament the revised Model Code of Conduct for Members, (The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 is attached at Appendix 1). The revised Code will come into force on the 3rd May and all Local Authorities will then have 6 months to adopt the revised Code. S.51 of the Local Government Act 2000 states that Authorities have 6 months from the date the order was made, (2nd April 2007) to adopt the revised Code. Therefore, if not adopted by 1st October 2007 will apply automatically. Parish and Town Councils are to make their own arrangements for the adoption of their new Codes.
- 3.2 In order to facilitate implementation, ensure consistency across authorities and assist Members to understand the revised Code, the Standards Board recommend that Local Authorities adopt the revised Code at their first opportunity and without amendment. This will give certainty to Members and the public as to what standards are expected,

5.3 This report will be tabled for approval at the Council meeting on the 29th June 2007.

6. OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 All material considerations have been taken into account in the contents of this report. In particular, risks may arise unless Members of Council are fully appraised on standards matters.

7. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None apply.

8. LIST OF APPENDICES

8.1 The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007

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Wards: N/A

Key Decision Validation: N/A

Background Papers

SI 2007 No. 1159 *The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007*

Examination by Statutory Officers

	Yes	Not Applicable
1. The report has been examined by the Council’s Head of the Paid Service or his representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The content has been examined by the Council’s S.151 Officer or his representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The content has been examined by the Council’s Monitoring Officer or his representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The report has been approved by Management Team	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

