



Joint Standards Committee**21 November 2018****Procedures for dealing with Councillor Code of Conduct Complaints****Summary**

- 1) This report updates Members on the progress of the Task Group in relation to reviewing the procedures for dealing with Councillor conduct complaints.

Background

- 2) On 13th June 2018 Members were asked to consider a report seeking their views on the continued sustainability of procedures adopted in York for handling matters relating to ethical governance. A Task Group was established and all of the procedures and documents were reviewed. Consultation also took place with political groups and YLCA.
- 3) The Task Group suggested amendments to the complaints procedure and also created new documents, including a flow chart for dealing with complaints and an Independent Persons Protocol.
- 4) The final version of the complaints procedure can be found at Annex One. The Flow chart can be found at Annex Two and the Independent Persons Protocol is at Annex Three.
- 5) The Task Group has also considered consultation comments on the proposed revised code of conduct. The Task Group is not minded to make any changes but the Committee has previously indicated that it would want to ensure any issues arising from ongoing cases are addressed and so it is intended to bring the code back for approval and recommendation to Council at a later meeting.

Recommendations

- 6) Members are asked to consider whether to accept the amendments within the Complaints Procedure and adopt the document and also to consider whether the complaints flow chart should form part of the procedure to be adopted in York to deal with Code of Conduct complaints.
- 7) Members are also asked to consider whether York should adopt the Independent Persons Protocol.

- 8) Members are asked to recommend that the code of conduct be brought back for approval and recommendation to Council at a later meeting.

Reason: To ensure that the procedures adopted by the Committee remain fit for purpose.

Contact Details

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Legal Services
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Wards Affected: *List wards or tick box to indicate all* **All**

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex One –Complaints Procedure (track change copy)
Annex Two –Code of Conduct Complaints Flowchart
Annex Three – Independent Persons Protocol

Background Papers: None