

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL
AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

**AGENDA
ITEM NO**

6 OCTOBER 2020

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Report Title	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS AND THE ARRANGEMENTS UNDER WHICH ALLEGATIONS CAN BE INVESTIGATED			
Purpose of Report	To provide the committee with final documents to approve for recommendation to Council at its meeting on the 22 nd of October 2020.			
Decision(s)	It is recommended that Audit & Standards Committee Approve the final draft documents and recommend them to Council for adoption			
Consultation and Feedback	The Audit and Standards Committee has responsibility for monitoring ethical standards within the authority and this report provides draft documents for it to consider by way of consultation. The arrangements have been circulated to town and parish councils.			
Report Author	Patrick Arran, Monitoring Officer Email: patrick.arran@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	The committee could decide not to accept any changes to the Code of Conduct or Arrangements but this is not recommended and would not comply with the reference from Council.			
Background Papers	None			
Appendices	Appendix A - the amended draft members Code of Conduct together with 'clean copy' Appendix B - the draft arrangements for investigating allegations under the Code of Conduct Appendix C – Link to the existing members Code of Conduct and investigations procedure - https://www.stroud.gov.uk/media/208436/members-code-of-conduct-investigations-procedure-section-7.pdf			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	No	No	No	No

1. Background

At its meeting on the 25th of August 2020 the committee considered a reference from Council regarding the Code of Conduct for Members and the Arrangements under which allegations under the Code were investigated.

- 1.1 The Committee considered the draft Code of Conduct and Arrangements documents prepared by the Monitoring Officer and approved them subject to amendments required by

the committee. The Monitoring Officer circulated amended drafts and notified Town and Parish Councils of the proposed Arrangements. At the time of writing, no suggested amendments have been made but if there is any change to this, the Monitoring Officer will update at the meeting.

- 1.2 The amended documents are now commended to the committee to approve and recommend to Council for adoption at its meeting on the 22nd of October.

2. IMPLICATIONS

2.1 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Lucy Clothier – Principal Accountant
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2.2 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations set out in the report.

Patrick Arran, Interim Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer
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2.3 Equality Implications

There are no equality implications arising from this report.

2.4 Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.