

Article 10 – The Members’ Code of Conduct Committee

10.1 Appointment

The Council will appoint a Members’ Code of Conduct Committee at its Annual Meeting.

10.2 Membership

The Members’ Code of Conduct Committee will be composed of:

- eight councillors who shall be representative of all political groups and shall include only one member of Cabinet and shall not include the Mayor or the Leader; and
- two persons who are not a councillor or a member of staff (an Independent Member);

The Independent Members are advisory and will not be entitled to vote at meetings.

10.3 Chairing the Committee

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the committee shall both be Independent Members.

10.4 Role and Functions

The Members’ Code of Conduct Committee will have the following roles and functions:

- (a) promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by councillors and any co-opted members (Members);
- (b) the establishment of a hearings panel (comprising three councillors and one independent member drawn from the membership of the Members’ Code of Conduct Committee) to assess and determine complaints against Members under the Code of Conduct;
- (c) to support the Monitoring Officer in exercising his delegated authority, in consultation with the Chairman of the Members’ Code of Conduct Committee, to select councillors to serve on the hearings panels above on a case by case basis;
- (d) assisting the Members to observe the Members’ Code of Conduct;
- (e) assisting the councillors in carrying out their civic duties effectively;
- (f) advising the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members’ Code of Conduct;
- (g) monitoring the operation of the Members’ Code of Conduct;

- (h) advising on training Members on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (i) granting dispensations to Members from the requirements relating to interests set out in the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (j) keeping an overview of and advising the Council on its Planning Code;
- (k) keeping an overview of and advising the Council on its Councillor and Staff Protocol;
- (l) keeping an overview on the operation of, and advising the Council on, any changes to its Constitution;
- (m) To appoint such independent person(s) as necessary pursuant to Section 28 Localism Act 2011;
- (n) keeping an overview on the operation of, and advising the Council on, the Staff Code of Conduct; and,
- (o) any other responsibilities which may be delegated to it by the Council.