

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL



8 October 2021

Our Ref Standards Committee/19 October 2021
Contact. Committee Services
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To: The Chair and Members of the Standards Committee of North Hertfordshire District Council

District Councillors Councillor Judi Billing MBE (Chair), Councillor Ruth Brown (Vice-Chair), Councillor Kate Aspinwall, Councillor Clare Billing, Councillor Sam Collins, Councillor Elizabeth Dennis-Harburg, Councillor David Levett, Councillor Gerald Morris, Councillor Sean Prendergast, Councillor Mike Rice, Councillor Claire Strong, Councillor Mandi Tandi, Councillor Richard Thake, Parish Councillor Rebecca Elliott, Parish Councillor Martin Griffin, Nicholas Moss OBE, Peter Chapman and John Richardson

(Substitutes: Councillors Councillor Ian Albert, Councillor Simon Bloxham, Councillor Paul Clark, Councillor George Davies, Councillor Simon Harwood, Councillor Michael Muir, Councillor Lisa Nash and Councillor Adem Ruggiero-Cakir)

Parish Councillors Parish Councillors Rebecca Elliott and Martin Griffin, Nicholas Moss OBE, Peter Chapman and John Richardson (Co-opted non-voting Members)

Independent Persons Nicholas Moss OBE (Independent Person)
Peter Chapman and John Richardson (Reserve Independent Person) – advisory roles

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A

MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

to be held in the

COUNCIL CHAMBER, DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES, GERON ROAD, LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY

On

TUESDAY, 19TH OCTOBER, 2021 AT 7.30 PM

Yours sincerely,

Jeanette Thompson
Service Director – Legal and Community

****MEMBERS PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU DOWNLOAD ALL AGENDAS AND REPORTS VIA THE MOD.GOV APPLICATION ON YOUR TABLET BEFORE ATTENDING THE MEETING****

Agenda Part I

Item	Page
<p>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Members are required to notify any substitutions by midday on the day of the meeting.</p> <p>Late substitutions will not be accepted and Members attending as a substitute without having given the due notice will not be able to take part in the meeting.</p>	
<p>2. MINUTES - 3 MARCH 2021 To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 3rd March 2021.</p>	<p>(Pages 5 - 8)</p>
<p>3. NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS Members should notify the Chair of other business which they wish to be discussed at the end of either Part I or Part II business set out in the agenda. They must state the circumstances which they consider justify the business being considered as a matter of urgency.</p> <p>The Chair will decide whether any item(s) raised will be considered.</p>	
<p>4. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS Members are reminded that any declarations of interest in respect of any business set out in the agenda, should be declared as either a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Declarable Interest and are required to notify the Chair of the nature of any interest declared at the commencement of the relevant item on the agenda. Members declaring a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest must withdraw from the meeting for the duration of the item. Members declaring a Declarable Interest, wishing to exercise a 'Councillor Speaking Right', must declare this at the same time as the interest, move to the public area before speaking to the item and then must leave the room before the debate and vote.</p>	
<p>5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public.</p>	
<p>6. STANDARDS MATTERS REPORT REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER</p> <p>The report updates Members of the Committee on standards issues locally and nationally.</p>	<p>(Pages 9 - 16)</p>

7. REVIEW OF COUNCILLOR COMPLAINTS HANDLING PROCEDURE

(Pages
17 - 72)

The report covers the review of the Councillor Complaints Handling Procedure. This was undertaken following the adoption of the new Code of Conduct by full Council this year. It seeks to improve the Procedure by taking into account complaints received since the Procedure was last reviewed in May 2019. The proposed amendments are set out under 8.1 of this report.