

10 March 2023

Our Ref Standards Committee 22 March 2023
Contact. Committee Services
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To: The Chair and Members of the Standards Committee of North Hertfordshire District Council

District Councillors	Councillor Ruth Brown (Vice-Chair), Councillor Raj Bhakar, Councillor Clare Billing, Councillor Simon Bloxham, Councillor Val Bryant, Councillor James Denselow, Councillor David Levett, Councillor Ralph Muncer, Councillor Sean Prendergast, Councillor Claire Strong and Councillor Mandi Tandi
Substitutes: Councillors	Councillor Alistair Willoughby, Councillor George Davies, Councillor Gerald Morris, Councillor Ian Albert, Councillor Richard Thake and Councillor Carol Stanier
Parish Councillors	Parish Councillor Rebecca Elliott, and Parish Councillor Martin Griffin (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 CHAMBERS, DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES,
GERNON ROAD, LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY, SG6 3JF**

On

WEDNESDAY, 22ND MARCH, 2023 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 - 22 JUNE 2022 To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 22 June 2022.</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 REPORTS REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER</p> <p>To update the Committee on standards issues.</p>	<p>(Pages 9 - 14)</p>

7. REVIEW OF THE COMPLAINTS HANDLING PROCEDURE (Pages
REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – LEGAL & COMMUNITY/ 15 - 72)
MONITORING OFFICER

The report covers a further review of the Complaints Handling Procedure, as requested in June 2022. These are minor changes to the Procedure to cover issues that have arisen since October 2021, when it was last updated.

The report also briefly covers the updated Protocol with the Police regarding referrals to them for potential offences under the Localism Act 2011 (in respect of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests).