

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

25 February 2025 Our Ref Standards Committee 5 March 2025

Contact. Committee Services Direct Dial. (01462) 474655

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To: The Chair and Members of the Standards Committee of North Hertfordshire District Council

District Councillors Alistair Willoughby (Chair), Ian Albert (Vice-Chair),

Ruth Brown, Val Bryant, Elizabeth Dennis, Dominic Griffiths, Keith Hoskins, Michael Muir, Vijaiya Poopalasingham, Sean Prendergast, Emma Rowe

and Tom Tyson

Substitutes: Councillors David Barnard, Clare Billing, Sam Collins, Emma

Fernandes, Caroline McDonnell, Ralph Muncer, Paul Ward

and Donna Wright

Parish Councillors Parish Councillor Rebecca Elliott and Parish Councillor

Martin Griffin(Co-opted non-voting Members)

Independent Persons Nicholas Moss OBE (Independent Person),

Patrick Hodson and Wai Bing Hui (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, LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY, SG6 3JF

On

WEDNESDAY, 5TH MARCH, 2025 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 <u>Part I</u>

Item Page

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Members are required to notify any substitutions by midday on the day of the meeting.

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.

2. MINUTES - 23 OCTOBER 2024

(Pages 5 - 12)

To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 23 October 2024.

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.

The Chair will decide whether any item(s) raised will be considered.

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.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public.

6. STANDARDS MATTERS REPORT

(Pages

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – LEGAL AND COMMUNITY/ 13 - 20) MONITORING OFFICER.

The report updates Members of the Committee on standards issues locally and nationally. It contains a summary of the complaints concluded or received since the last report was presented, as well as any other relevant issues that have arisen between Committee meetings on relevant local (e.g. training provided/ undertaken, and an update on the changes to the Standards Committee's remit).

7. ANNUAL WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY REVIEW

(Pages

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – LEGAL AND COMMUNITY/ 21 - 36) MONITORING OFFICER.

The report deals with the review of the Council's Whistleblowing Policy and any concerns raised.