

Council – 12 April 2022

Motions by Members (Standing Order No. 14)

Member Code Of Conduct (Cllr Charles)

Council notes

1. That Government has very recently published its response to the Committee for Standards in Public Life 2019 report [into strengthening the local government standards regime](#) after a three year wait. The response falls short of making changes to the standards regime but suggests that councils can adopt changes themselves to strengthen conduct issues.
2. Amongst possible changes proposed are steps to improve matters such as bullying and harassment of and by councillors and the adoption of an updated model code of conduct issued by the Local Government Association.
3. That many councillors elected in 2019 have valuable experience of the pressures in the role and can assist North Somerset Council in how it can support councillors in the future.

Council Resolves

1. To ask the Monitoring Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer to review the new LGA code with a view to recommending its early adoption by Council and providing supporting training on the new code and standards matters for current councillors and its inclusion in future induction briefings for members following elections.
2. To create a group of cllrs from across the council (no more than 6) to work with the Monitoring Officer and the Deputy Monitoring Officer to provide input into the adoption of the code and its related training and support with an overall objective of providing a productive and safe working environment for Cllrs in the future