

Bolsover District Council

Customer Service & Transformation Scrutiny Committee

1st October 2018

Review of Standards Committee – Operational Review

Report of the Chair of Customer Service & Transformation Scrutiny Committee

This report is public

Purpose of the Report

- To update Members of Committee on the activity of the Working Group leading this scrutiny review.

1 Report Details

- 1.1 The Working Group agreed by the Customer Service & Transformation Scrutiny Committee, has met on two occasions to date.
- 1.2 During the first meeting the Working Group considered how to approach the scope agreed, alongside the issues raised by Standards Committee Members. Additional queries have been posed back to Standards Committee and we await their response, following their next meeting on 15th October.
- 1.3 Over the summer break and during the second meeting of the Working Group, a benchmarking exercise has also been completed across the following Councils:
- Bolsover D.C.
 - Chesterfield B.C
 - Mansfield D.C.
 - Bassetlaw D.C.
 - Amber Valley B.C
 - Rushcliffe B.C
 - Erewash B.C

This has involved a review of each Council's Constitution, Committee Terms of reference and the Council's website. A number of similarities have been found. Where there are clear differences these will be raised where deemed necessary as part of the final report, for Standards Committee to consider.

2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 Additional work is required in the coming months, with a final draft report available by December.
- 2.2 Committee Members are asked to note progress of the Working Group to date.

3 Consultation and Equality Impact

- 3.1 The aim of the benchmark exercise is to establish that our approach is both compliant with current legislation and equitable with that taken by neighbouring authorities.
- 3.2 A key element of the review is to establish that both Members and the Public have easy access to information on how the Authority manages and maintains the required standards of conduct expected.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 There are none applicable to this report. This report is merely to keep Members not involved in the Working Group, informed of activity to date. Additional information will be made available in the Committee's Informal session.

5 Implications

5.1 Finance and Risk Implications

- 5.1.1 None from this report.

5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection

- 5.2.1 None from this report.

5.3 Human Resources Implications

- 5.3.1 None from this report.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 That Members note the progress so far and raise queries or suggestions for further activity with the Working Group.

7 Decision Information

Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: <i>BDC: Revenue - £75,000</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Capital - £150,000</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Capital - £250,000</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	No
Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No

Has the relevant Portfolio Holder been informed	N/A
District Wards Affected	All
Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework	Providing Our Customers with Excellent Service; Transforming Our Organisation

8 Document Information

Appendix No	Title
	N/A
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	
Report Author	Contact Number
Joanne Wilson, Scrutiny & Elections Officer	2385

Report Reference –