

Bolsover District Council

Standards Committee

8 April 2014

Committee on Standards in Public Life Survey

Report of the Monitoring Officer

This report is public

Purpose of the Report

- To respond to the Committee on Standards in Public Life's local authority survey.

1 Report Details

- 1.1 The Committee on Standards in Public Life, sometimes called the Nolan Committee, is an independent body which advises Government on ethical standards. The Committee promotes high ethical standards in public life and works to ensure that the Seven Principles of Public Life - selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership – underpin all aspects of public life. The Seven Principles of Public Life were introduced in 1995.
- 1.2 The Committee is currently looking at how best to embed high ethical standards in public sector organisations through induction, education and training. By high ethical standards the Committee means actively observing the Seven Principles of Public Life. This could mean, for example, acting in terms of the public rather than personal or private interest and not being improperly influenced by others; being honest, open and transparent and declaring all personal interests; and making decisions impartially, fairly and on merit.
- 1.3 One of the areas the Committee is looking at is whether advice and guidance on ethical standards is covered in induction and training programmes for elected representatives, including local councillors. The Committee would like to invite local councillors and local authority monitoring officers to complete a short survey on what their local authority does in terms of induction and training. The survey is anonymous and participation is entirely voluntary. The survey will be live until 17 April and can be accessed by clicking on this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HC5WRNC>

- 1.4 The survey should take about 10 - 15 minutes to complete and responses will be anonymous. The survey may be completed by officers and councillors. One option is to complete the survey during the Committee meeting. In addition, any council with particular examples of good practice that could be shared with the Committee are invited to contact leila.brosnan@standards.gsi.gov.uk. The findings will feed into a report which will be published in July. A copy of the findings will, of course, be presented to this Committee.

2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 To bring to the Committee's attention the Committee on Standards in Public Life's survey of local authorities.

3 Consultation and Equality Impact

- 3.1 None.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 None.

5 Implications

5.1 Finance and Risk Implications

None.

5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection

None.

5.3 Human Resources Implications

None.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 That Committee notes the survey and decides whether and how it wishes to respond.

7 Decision Information

<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? (A Key Decision is one which results in income or expenditure to the Council of £50,000 or more or which has a significant impact on two or more District wards)</p>	<p>No</p>
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District Wards Affected	None.
Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework	None.

8 Document Information

Appendix No	Title
	None.
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)	
None.	
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