

Bolsover District Council

Standards Committee

Monday 3rd October 2016

Annual Review of Gifts and Hospitality Registers

Report of the Monitoring Officer

This report is public

Purpose of the Report

- Once a year the Gifts and Hospitality Register for the Council is checked by the Monitoring Officer and the Legal Support Officer to ensure that it is being used correctly.
- This is the second Calendar Year that we are compiling this annual report by utilising the figures presented on the new central Gifts and Hospitalities register which the Legal Support Officer maintains for the entire Council. The results of the review are contained on the attached spreadsheet.

1 Report Details

- 1.1 The review shows all registered offers of gifts and hospitality were accepted for the Calendar year 2015.
- 1.2 Most of the gifts are relatively small but there are several declarations that state the amount as £80 - £85. These entries are the group of employees that attended an overnight invitation from the Developers for the new Clowne Swimming facility – Pulse Fitness. The attendees were invited primarily by the Developers to have the opportunity to show their previous development of Lowestoft Leisure facility. There were 7 gifts and hospitalities registered by members in the period, 4 of these were in relation to the Pulse Fitness invitation.
- 1.3 The following departments showed no registrations:- CEPT, Economic Growth, Planning & Environmental Health, Street Scene, ICT, Health& Wellbeing, Human Resources, Shirebrook Contact Centre and Bolsover Contact Centre.

2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 The outcome of the review as shown on the spreadsheet attached.
- 2.2 It is good governance to check this register once a year to ensure it is being used and that entries are appropriate. It is an appropriate time for a review.

3 Consultation and Equality Impact

3.1 None

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 There is no alternative.

5 Implications

5.1 Finance and Risk Implications

There is no finance risk. However there is a reputational risk if the register is not used, is not used appropriately or if gifts and hospitality are accepted where they should not be, irrespective of whether or not they are registered.

5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection

Individuals take responsibility for their own actions in respect of the receipt of gifts and hospitality. However advice is available in relation to any offer from the Monitoring Officer, Deputy Monitoring Officer and from Legal. Members and Officers are encouraged to seek this advice where they have an issue.

5.3 Human Resources Implications

It is a requirement of the Employee code of conduct that employees register the offer of gifts and hospitality and of the members' code of conduct that members register such offers.

6 Recommendations

6.1 **Members consider the outcome of the review.**

7 Decision Information

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)	No
District Wards Affected	N/A
Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework	N/A

8 Document Information

Appendix No	Title
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)	
<i>Gifts and Hospitality Central Register.</i>	
Report Author	Contact Number
Rebecca Rowley/Sarah Sternberg	2428/2414

Report Reference –