

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Notes of a meeting of the Standards Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne, on Monday 27th November 2017 at 1400 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Mrs R. Jaffray (Independent Member) in the Chair

Councillors H.J. Gilmour, and D.S. Watson.

Independent Person:-

I. Kirk

Officers:-

S.E.A. Sternberg (Assistant Director – Governance, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer) and D. Cairns (Governance Manager - Acting).

As only two Members were present, this meeting of the Standards Committee was not quorate. Members agreed to proceed with the agenda for information and discussion, noting that any decisions would be ratified at the next meeting.

The Chair introduced and welcomed Mr Ian Kirk, recently appointed Independent Person, to the Committee.

0001. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors M. Dixey, C.R. Moesby, and S. Statter.

0002. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

0003. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

0004. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Moved by Councillor H.J. Gilmour and seconded by Councillor D.S. Watson.

AGREED that the Minutes of a Standards Committee held on 13th April 2017 be noted.

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0005. LICENSING COMMITTEE AND DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS

Committee considered a report which recommended that the approval of Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) be removed from the Terms of Reference for Licensing Committee and added to the Executive functions.

Members were advised that DFGs were deemed an Executive function as a matter of law and this report sought to correct the allocation of this responsibility which had been with Licensing Committee under previous governance arrangements.

It was further proposed that mandatory DFGs be dealt with under an officer delegation and that only discretionary DFGs would be submitted to Executive.

Members discussed the sorts of applications dealt with under DGFs and commented that it did not seem like a fitting subject matter in line with the remit of Licensing Committee.

It was requested that this report be brought back to Standards Committee, following consideration of the matter by the Executive.

AGREED that the report be noted.

(Assistant Director – Governance, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer)

0006. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

The Committee considered a report which outlined areas on the Constitution that would be considered in this year's review. Members were invited to raise any further areas that felt needed review.

The report also outlined the timetable that the review would follow, with a possibility of an informal meeting of the Committee being called in January 2018 should the review require Member input at an early stage, prior to the consideration of the proposals at the scheduled Committee meeting in February 2018.

AGREE that the report be noted.

(Assistant Director – Governance, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer)

0007. COMPLAINTS OF BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT – 2017

The Committee were informed that one complaint was still being dealt with however no new complaints had been received since the previous meeting.

AGREED that the update be noted.

(Assistant Director – Governance, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer)

0008. WORK PLAN

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Committee considered their Work Plan for the 2017/18 period.

It was noted that the report on Licensing Committee and Disabled Facilities Grants would be brought back to the next meeting, once it had been considered by the Executive.

RESOLVED that the Work Plan be noted.

(Assistant Director – Governance, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer)

The meeting concluded at 1425 hours.