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**Report of:** Director of Legal and Governance

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**Date:** 12 January 2017

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**Subject:** Review of the Members' Code of Conduct

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**Author of Report:** Dave Ross, Democratic Services

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**Summary:**

The Members' Code of Conduct was last reviewed in March 2015 as part of changes to the Procedure for Dealing with Standards Complaints and no changes were proposed at that time.

Following a recent review, a number of minor changes are proposed.

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**Recommendations:**

That the Committee:-

- (a) Comments on the proposed minor changes to the Members' Code of Conduct and considers if any further changes are required; and
  - (b) With the inclusion of any additional revisions arising from the meeting, recommends to Full Council that the changes are approved and that the Constitution is amended accordingly.
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**Background Papers:**

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**Category of Report:** OPEN

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## Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

<b>Financial Implications</b>
NO
<b>Legal Implications</b>
YES Cleared by: Gill Duckworth
<b>Equality of Opportunity Implications</b>
NO
<b>Tackling Health Inequalities Implications</b>
NO
<b>Human rights Implications</b>
NO:
<b>Environmental and Sustainability implications</b>
NO
<b>Economic impact</b>
NO
<b>Community safety implications</b>
NO
<b>Human resources implications</b>
NO
<b>Property implications</b>
NO
<b>Area(s) affected</b>
None
<b>Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?</b>
YES
<b>Press release</b>
NO

## **REVIEW OF THE MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Following a recent review, a number of minor changes are proposed to the Members' Code of Conduct.

### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 The Members' Code of Conduct sets out the standards which are required of all members of the authority in carrying out their duties and in their relationships with the Council and its officers and applies to Elected Members and Co-opted Members.

2.2 The Code of Conduct was last changed in June 2013 when the seven principles of public life were amended. The Code was also reviewed in March 2015 as part of changes to the Procedure for Dealing with Standards Complaints and no changes were proposed at that time.

### **3.0 PROPOSED CHANGES**

3.1 The only proposed changes relate to the Equalities section. Paragraph 4.1 has been updated to reflect changes in legislation that have been repealed and incorporated into the Equality Act 2010. Paragraph 4.3 has also been updated to reflect changes to the titles of Council Policy documents. The proposed amendments are set out in the Appendix to the report.

3.2 It is intended that the Code and related Protocols will be reviewed annually.

### **4.0 LEGAL AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 As the Code of Conduct is included in the Constitution, any changes would require approval at Full Council.

4.2 There are no financial implications.

### **5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

5.1 That the Committee:-

- (a) Comments on the proposed minor changes to the Members' Code of Conduct and considers if any further changes are required; and
- (b) With the inclusion of any additional revisions arising from the meeting, recommends to Full Council that the changes are approved and that the Constitution is amended accordingly.

**Gillian Duckworth**  
**Monitoring Officer and Director of Legal and Governance**

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