

**POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**24 SEPTEMBER 2020**

**ANNUAL STANDARDS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2019 – 31 MARCH 2020**

**1.0 Purpose of the Report**

1.1 To consider the Annual Standards Report for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Members will be aware that this report is usually submitted to the June meeting of the Committee, but it was deferred until this meeting given the requirement to hold virtual meetings and the large amount of business the Committee had at their June meeting.

**2.0 Background**

2.1 At its meeting on 10 March 2016 the Council deleted the Standards Committee from the committee structure with its remit being incorporated in to the Policy & Finance Committee. It was further agreed that the Annual Report relating to standards issues be brought to the Policy & Finance Committee.

**3.0 Code of Conduct Complaints**

3.1 The Monitoring Officer received ten complaints within the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Seven complaints resulted in no further action being taken, three complaints are still being considered but these all relate to parish councillors.

**4.0 Formal Investigation and Code of Conduct Hearing**

4.1 There were no formal investigations or Code of Conduct Hearings required for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.

**5.0 Register of Members Interests**

5.1 Register of Interests Forms for Newark & Sherwood District Council Members were issued to all Members following the District Council elections held on 2 May 2019. These were required to be completed and returned within 28 days of the election. These have been returned from all Members and are published on the Council's website.

5.2 Town and Parish Councillors are also required to complete a Register of Interest form within 28 days of the election which are also published on the Council's website.

**6.0 RECOMMENDATION**

**That the annual report be noted.**

**Reason for Recommendation**

**To provide Members with details of the standards complaints in 2019/20.**

**Background Papers**

Nil

For further information please contact Nigel Hill, Business Manager – Elections & Democratic Services on Ext 5243.

Karen White

Director - Governance & Organisational Development and Monitoring Officer