

West Suffolk Standards Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the **West Suffolk Standards Committee** held on **Monday 22 January 2024 at 6.00 pm** in **Conference Room, Mildenhall Hub, Sheldrick Way, Mildenhall IP28 7JX**

Present: **Councillors**

Chair Roger Dicker

Vice Chair Julia Wakelam

John Augustine

Victor Lukaniuk

Margaret Marks

Andrew Smith

Liz Smith

46. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Sara Mildmay-White.

47. **Substitutes**

The following substitution was declared:

Councillor Andrew Smith substituting for Councillor Sara Mildmay-White

48. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2023 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

49. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

50. **Public participation**

There were no questions/statements from members of the public.

51. **Procedure for Handling Standards Complaints (Report No: STC/WS/24/001)**

The Committee was reminded that on 22 March 2022 West Suffolk Council adopted the Local Government Association Model Code of Conduct as its new Local Code of Conduct for Councillors.

The current Standards Procedures and Standards Committee Procedure were adopted on 15 July 2019. Accordingly, the Monitoring Officer, having noted the LGA Guidance, considered that there was scope to amend the Standards

Procedures and Standards Committee Procedure to ensure they continued to meet the principles of fairness, proportionality, transparency and impartiality.

Proposed amendments to the two procedures were set out in Report No STC/WS/24/001, together with a supplementary paper which outlined the changes to the Standards Procedures by way of tracked changes, for ease of reference by Members.

During discussion some of the Committee raised questions in relation to the complaints process which the Monitoring Officer responded to.

Members were also requested to bring the changes into effect in respect of both procedures from 1 April 2024, in order to enable any ongoing investigations to be concluded in line with the current procedures.

It was moved by Councillor John Augustine, seconded by Councillor Julia Wakelam and with the vote being unanimous it was

RESOLVED

That the proposed amendments to the West Suffolk Council Standards Procedures and Standards Committee Procedure be approved, to come into effect from 1 April 2024.

The meeting concluded at 6.22pm

Signed by:

Chair
