

<b>Council/Committee:</b>	Council
<b>Report Title</b>	Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee Annual Report 2025-2026
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 17 March 2026
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<b>Wards Affected</b>	N/A
<b>Identify exempt information and exemption category</b>	Open
<b>Appendices (if any)</b>	1. Annual Report of the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee 2025-2026

## 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee's terms of reference requires the committee to produce an annual report detailing the activities undertaken throughout the municipal year

## 2. Recommendations

Council is recommended to:-

- 2.1 Consider and note the Annual Report of the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee 2025-2026

## 3. Proposals – Reasons for the recommendations

- 3.1 Council established an Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee to promote and maintain high standards of conduct and ethical governance by Elected and Co-opted Members of the Council.

3.2 The Committee is required to submit an annual report to Council detailing the work undertaken throughout the year.

#### **4 Alternative Options Considered**

4.1 The Committee is required to submit an annual report to Council detailing the work undertaken throughout the year

#### **5. Consultation**

5.1 None required.

#### **6. Financial Implications**

6.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

#### **7. Legal and Governance Implications**

7.1 The Authority has a statutory duty under the Localism Act 2011 to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Members. The Authority is also obliged to have in place a Code of Conduct, a procedure for investigating complaints against Members and ensure that any complaints made are investigated in accordance with that procedure.

7.2 The new standards arrangements are set out in chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011, and in secondary legislation made under the Act, particularly in The Relevant Authorities (Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

#### **8. Risks**

8.1 There are no direct risk implications arising from this report.

#### **9. Equality and Diversity Implications (including the public sector equality duty)**

9.1 There are no direct equality implications arising from this report.

#### **10. Other Relevant Implications**

10.1 No other relevant implications arising from this report.

#### **11. Background Documents**

11.1 None.

#### **12. How does this deliver the objectives of the Strategic Themes?**

12.1 Through its work in promoting high standards of conduct, the Committee makes a positive contribution to the Council's governance and decision-making arrangements of the authority