

Council

9 May 2013

Agenda Item 124

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Code of Conduct for Member/Officer Relations; and Code of Conduct for Employees		
Date of Meeting:	9 May 2013 16 April 2013 – Audit & Standards Committee		
Report of:	Monitoring Officer		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Oliver Dixon	Tel: 01273 291512
	Email:	oliver.dixon@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for minor amendments to the council's Code of Conduct for Member/Officer Relations, and Code of Conduct for Employees.
- 1.2 The amendments reflect new arrangements for handling confidential information; the council's revised corporate values; and the latest senior management structure.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Committee –

- 2.1 Agree the council's Code of Conduct for Member/Officer Relations as amended and set out at Appendix 1.
- 2.2 Agree the council's Code of Conduct for Employees as amended and set out at Appendix 2.
- 2.3 Recommend each of these codes to Full Council for approval.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- 3.1 The Code of Conduct for Member/Officer Relations and the Code of Conduct for Employees form part of the council's constitution and are subject to periodic review, to ensure they remain relevant and up to date.
- 3.2 Following a review in early 2013, it is proposed to amend both codes to take account of recent developments affecting the council's corporate governance, comprising:

- (i) new arrangements for handling confidential information, as reported separately to Audit & Standards Committee on 16 April 2013 (see agenda item 100);
 - (ii) the council's six organisational values; and
 - (iii) the senior management structure introduced on 1 April 2013
- 3.3 The proposed Code of Conduct for Member/Officer Relations, as amended, is set out at Appendix 1.
- 3.4 The proposed Code of Conduct for Employees, as amended, is set out at Appendix 2.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The codes referred to in this report were considered by a cross-party working group of members, as well as the Independent Person, on 4 April 2013.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 It is not expected that the amended codes will have any significant financial implications for the council.

Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley

Date: 08/04/13

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 Changes to the council's constitution of the type described in this report must first be considered by Audit & Standards, then referred to Full Council for approval. (Article 13 03 of the constitution refers). This requirement is reflected in the recommendations above.

Lawyer Consulted: Oliver Dixon

Date: 08/04/13

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 None specific to this report

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 None

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 None

Public Health Implications:

5.7 None

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.8 As amended, both codes take account of the council's organisational values. As regards the Code of Conduct for Member/Officer Relations, the key value is respect.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Code of Conduct for Member/Officer Relations, as amended.
2. Code of Conduct for Employees, as amended.

