

APPENDIX 1

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PART 2 OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION – ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION

Article 9 - The Standards Committee

9.01 Standards Committee

The Council meeting will establish a Standards Committee.

9.02 Composition

The Standards Committee will be composed of ~~eight~~ Councillors, who may not include the Leader or Mayor *or more than one Cabinet Member*, and ~~four people~~ (“ the independent members ”), none of whom are councillors or officers of the Council or any other body having a Standards Committee. *At least one quarter of the membership of the Committee must be independent members.*

- (a) **Membership.** The Standards Committee is composed of ~~eight~~ Councillors and ~~four~~ independent members
- (b) **Independent members.** Independent members will be entitled to vote at meetings;
- (c) **Chairing the Committee.**
 - (i) The Committee selects its own Chair from among the independent members.
 - ~~(ii) A Member of the Cabinet may not chair the committee.~~
 - ~~(iii)~~(ii) The Chair of the Standards Committee will have a casting vote in the event of a vote being tied.
- (d) **Quorum.** *The quorum is three including a Chair from among the independent members and at least one Councillor.*

9.03 Role and Function

The Standards Committee will have the following roles and functions:

- (a) Promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by Councillors, co-opted members and representatives of religious organisations and parent governor representatives;

- (b) Assisting the Leader, Councillors, co-opted members and representatives of religious organisations and parent governor representatives to observe the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (c) Advising the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (d) Monitoring the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (e) Advising, training or arranging to train Councillors and co-opted members on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct and the ethical framework;
- (f) Granting dispensations to the Elected Mayor, Councillors and co-opted members from requirements relating to interests set out in the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (g) Advising the Council on codes and protocols forming the Council's ethical framework and its governance arrangements, monitoring the effectiveness of those arrangements and making reports and recommendations accordingly;
- (h) Carrying out an assessment and review function for all complaints received by the Council against Councillors and co-opted members;
- (i) Dealing with any reports from a case tribunal or interim case tribunal and any report from the Monitoring Officer on any matter which is referred by the Ethical Standards Officer to the Monitoring Officer;
- (j) Hearing complaints against Councillors and co-opted members made to the Council or referred back from the Standard Board for England;
- (k) Hearing complaints against co-opted members arising from alleged breaches of Codes and Protocols falling outside the jurisdiction of the Standards Board for England;
- (l) Responding to national reviews and consultations on standards related issues;
- (m) Granting exemptions for politically restricted posts and giving directions to include a post on the list of restricted posts;
- (n) Advising the Council on the appointment of independent members and taking steps to select them.