

For General Release

REPORT TO:	ETHICS COMMITTEE 18 FEBRUARY 2013
AGENDA ITEM NO:	6
SUBJECT:	UPDATE ON MEMBERS' REGISTER OF INTERESTS
LEAD OFFICER:	COUNCIL SOLICITOR, DIRECTOR OF DEMOCRATIC AND LEGAL SERVICES & MONITORING OFFICER
CABINET MEMBER:	
WARDS:	ALL
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT: The Council has determined that the Ethics Committee shall be responsible for receiving reports from the Monitoring Officer on matters of probity and ethics for consideration.	
FINANCIAL IMPACT Implementation of the recommendations contained in this report shall be contained within existing budgets.	
FORWARD PLAN KEY DECISION REFERENCE NO.: N/A	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to:

- 1.1 Endorse the contents of the report

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 Following statutory amendments to the ethics regime, full Council adopted a new Code of Conduct and approved a new register of interests for Members' to complete.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1 Under Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 ("the Act"), a Member or co-opted Member who has a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) must register these interests on the register held by the Monitoring Officer.
- 3.2 The Council is required, by the Localism Act 2011("the Act"), to establish and maintain a Register of Member's Interests. The Register has been established and is maintained by the Monitoring Officer, who holds the hard copy Register which is updated as and when the Monitoring Officer is notified of any changes by Members. Members of the public wishing to view the hard copy register can make arrangements to view it in person by contacting the Monitoring Officer.

- 3.3 In addition, the Council is required to ensure that the Members' Register of Interests is published on the Council's website.
- 3.4 All Members' have completed their register of interests and the register is now available online.
- 3.5 In order to ensure that the Register which is online is periodically updated to reflect changes in circumstance which Members notify to the Monitoring Officer, the on-line register will contain the following information:

(a) Copy of original Register of Interests submitted by each Member.

This copy of the original will be updated quarterly to remove, by way of redaction, any interests which the Member no longer has. Any additional Interests which a Member has notified to the Monitoring Officer will be reflected in the spreadsheet referred to in (b) below. The Member will not be required to complete a new Register of Interests form for each change in circumstance during their term of office but is required to notify the Monitoring Officer of changes which occur during their term of office in accordance with the Act.

(b) A spreadsheet, prepared quarterly, which provides details of any updates which Members have made to their Register during the quarter.

(c) A spreadsheet of Members Gifts and Hospitality declarations, updated each quarter.

4. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 As set out in the body of the report.

CONTACT OFFICERS:

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Legal Services and Monitoring
Officer (ext 64985)

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None