

CODE OF CONDUCT – MEMBER TRAINING

Reporting Officer: Head of Democratic Services

REASON FOR REPORT

To summarise the main areas to be covered in the forthcoming training programme for Members about the new Code of Conduct adopted by Council on 5 July.

RECOMMENDATION: that the contents of the training programme be noted as follows:

- **INTRODUCTION** – details of the Localism Act 2011, the changes from the old Code and when the Code applies
- **THE SEVEN GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC LIFE**
- **GENERAL OBLIGATIONS** – a summary of the obligations imposed on Members / co-opted members by the new Code.
- **PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS** – what they are, when they should be declared and what to do once they have been declared.
- **GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY**
- **THE NEW COMPLAINTS PROCESS** – including the ‘Whips’ Protocol’, the role of the Standards Committee, the role of the Independent Person and sanctions.
- **THE PLANNING CODE OF CONDUCT** – including the new rules on pre-determination and bias.
- **THE ICT CODE OF CONDUCT** – including the rules on use of Council resources.
- **SOCIAL NETWORKING** – the advantages and pitfalls.