

CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

MEETING OF: GOVERNANCE AND CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE
DATE: 17TH APRIL 2024
REPORT OF: DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE
AUTHOR: ANDREW LEADBETTER

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

Purpose of Report

1. To allow Members to consider whether there should be any changes to the Members' Code of Conduct (the Code).

Recommended: That Members

- [1] Consider the Members' Code of Conduct and determine whether any changes need to be recommended to the Fire Authority.

Background

2. The Code was adopted by the Fire Authority in December 2021. It is almost entirely based on the Local Government Association's Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020 (the Model Code).
3. The constituent authorities have all adopted Members' codes of conduct that are closely based on the Model Code. This provides a consistency of approach that was missing before the Model Code was created in 2020.
4. The Code was reviewed in April 2023 and some minor changes were made.

Information

5. The current Code is attached to this report as Appendix 1.
6. The Model Code has not been updated since it was published. Nor has any further guidance been issued by the Local Government Association since the Code was adopted by the Fire Authority. In addition, it does not appear that the constituent authorities have made changes to their Members' codes since they were adopted.
7. There have been no complaints about Members since the Code was adopted.

8. In light of the above, officers believe that the Code is fit for purpose and does not require any change at this point.

Financial Implications

9. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications

10. The Fire Authority is required to have a Members' code of conduct. The attached Code is consistent with the law and guidance associated with member conduct.

Equality and Diversity Implications

11. There are none.

Environmental Implications

12. There are none.

CONTACT: DONNA LINTON, CLEMONDS HEY, WINSFORD

TEL [01606] 868804

BACKGROUND PAPERS: NONE