



Notice of Meeting of

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Thursday, 18 July 2024 at 11.00 am

**John Meikle Room, The Deane House, Belvedere
Road, Taunton TA1 1HE**

To: The members of the Standards Committee

Chair: Councillor John Bailey
Vice-chair: Councillor Brian Smedley

Councillor Hugh Davies	Councillor Martin Dimery
Councillor Frances Nicholson	Robin Horton
Paul Hooper	David Stripp
Alan Hemsley	Sally Foster

For further information about the meeting, including how to join the meeting virtually, please contact Democratic Services democraticservicesteam@somerset.gov.uk.

All members of the public are welcome to attend our meetings and ask questions or make a statement **by giving advance notice** in writing or by e-mail to the Monitoring Officer at email: democraticservicesteam@somerset.gov.uk by **5pm on Friday, 12 July 2024**.

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A: Access to Information.

The meeting will be webcast and an audio recording made.

Issued by (the Proper Officer) on Wednesday, 10 July 2024

AGENDA

Standards Committee - 11.00 am Thursday, 18 July 2024

Public Guidance Notes contained in Agenda Annexe (Pages 7 - 8)

Click here to join the online meeting (Pages 9 - 10)

1 Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 Declarations of Interest

To receive and note any declarations of interests in respect of any matters included on the agenda for consideration at this meeting.

(The other registrable interests of Councillors of Somerset Council, arising from membership of City, Town or Parish Councils and other Local Authorities will automatically be recorded in the minutes: [City, Town & Parish Twin Hatters - Somerset Councillors 2023](#))

3 Minutes from the Previous Meeting and Action Sheet (Pages 11 - 18)

To approve the minutes from the previous meeting held on 27 March 2024 and to consider the action sheet.

4 Public Question Time

The Chair to advise the Committee of any items on which members of the public have requested to speak and advise those members of the public present of the details of the Council's public participation scheme.

For those members of the public who have submitted any questions or statements, please note, a three minute time limit applies to each speaker and you will be asked to speak before Councillors debate the issue.

We are now live webcasting most of our committee meetings and you are welcome to view and listen to the discussion. The link to each webcast will be available on the meeting webpage, please see details under 'click here to join online meeting'.

5 Code of Conduct Complaints - 2023/2024 Annual Review (Pages 19 - 24)

To consider a report reviewing the Code of Conduct complaints received from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

6 Code of Conduct Complaints 2024/2025 - Quarterly Update - Q1 (Pages 25 - 30)

To receive an update on the number of Code of Conduct complaints received for Quarter 1 (April to June 2024).

7 Standards Committee Objectives, Work Programme and Priority Group (Pages 31 - 32)

To receive a verbal update on the workshop held to consider the Committee's objectives, work programme and priority groups.

Exclusion of Press and Public

PLEASE NOTE: Although the agenda for this meeting is not confidential, if at any point Members wish to discuss information the Committee will be asked to agree the following resolution to exclude the press and public:

Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider passing a resolution having been duly proposed and seconded under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting, on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information, within the meaning of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972:

Reason: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).