

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>CAROLYN WHEATER – ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (LEGAL AND CORPORATE SUPPORT SERVICES)</b>

**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 To highlight the terms of reference agreed by Council on 27 November 2012.

**2. Revisions Made to the Terms of Reference**

2.1 As agreed at the last meeting of the Standards Committee on 22 October 2012 revisions to the terms of reference were proposed to the Council meeting of 27 November 2012. The terms of reference, incorporating changes agreed by the Standards Committee and approved by Council are attached as **Appendix A**.

2.2 The most significant of the changes to the terms of reference are reiterated below to remind members of the change in the Committee's role:

- i. To consider matters relating to the governance of the Council and ethical conduct by councillors, and propose relevant guidance if appropriate.*

This term extends the previous role of the Standards Committee to ensure that the Ethics and Engagement Committee can proactively consider matters which could be of future relevance to member conduct and the governance of the Council. It includes an emphasis upon the active consideration of guidance for councillors, allowing member direction on both its content and scope.

- ii. To monitor councillor development and offer guidance intended to improve its efficacy, value, or delivery.*

In addition to some governance matters, as outlined above, currently member development is not directly considered by any committee. In accordance with good practice identified in the Member Development Charter it was agreed that the Committee's remit be extended to allow it to consider and offer feedback on member development within the Council.

- iii. To develop innovative and effective proposals to improve democratic engagement.*

This term was agreed in accordance with the Council's strategic plan in order to improve democratic engagement. To allow the Committee to engage with related

matters, such as electoral turnout and limiting barriers to candidates for election, and recommend any appropriate action, the term highlights explicitly the extent of the Committee's revised purpose and remit. An emphasis is to be placed upon the Committee actively contributing towards and proposing ideas in this area.

**3. Finance Implications**

3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

**4. Legal Implications**

4.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

**5. Recommendations**

5.1 It is recommended that the Ethics and Engagement Committee notes the revisions to its terms of reference.