

Ethics and Engagement Committee Work Programme 2014/15**23 June 2014**

| Topic                         | Matter for Consideration  | Outcome   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Code of Conduct: Cases Review | To examine national developments of relevance to the Members' Code of Conduct.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To note the issues raised and consider a suitable response if required.</li> </ul>   |
| Defamation Act 2013           | To update guidance on defamation as a result of the recently-implemented change in the law.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To consider the guidance, offer any suggestions for amendments, and to recommend circulation to other elected members</li> </ul>                     |
| Member Induction Review       | Following consideration of the plans for the induction of any newly-elected councillors in May 2014, this will provide an opportunity for members to consider the outcome of the induction provided to new members. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To consider the delivery of member inductions and to offer any recommendations for future improvement.</li> </ul>                                    |
| Local Democracy Week Update   | To update members on the plans for Local Democracy Week 2014.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To consider the arrangements made and recommend any suitable changes.</li> </ul>   |
| Boundary Review               | The City of Lincoln Council's boundaries are being reviewed by the Boundary Commission, which involves an assessment of the relative number of electors in each electoral ward.                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To note the consultations undertaken as part of the boundary review and to offer comment on the potential impact for the city's electors.</li> </ul> |
| State of the City Debate      | Following consideration of the best means to promote constructive debate within Council meetings, members recommended trialling a State of the Area debate.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To note and guide the development of the debate.</li> </ul>  |
| Work Programme Update         | The Committee's work programme is agreed on an ongoing basis in consultation with the Chair and the Committee.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To agree the work programme.</li> <li>▪ To consider the arrangements for the next meeting.</li> </ul>  |

**1 September 2014**

| Topic  | Matter for Consideration   | Outcome  |
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| Code of Conduct: Cases Review                    | To examine national developments of relevance to the Members' Code of Conduct.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To note the issues raised and consider a suitable response if required.</li> </ul>  |
| Increasing the Diversity of Electoral Candidates | Across the United Kingdom, elected members in local government are often disproportionately drawn from certain sections of the population, with significant disparities existing in areas such as race, gender, and age. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To determine whether any barriers to a broader range of electoral candidates exist that the Council could reasonably address, noting that the Council has no role in influencing the selection process of political parties.</li> </ul> |
| Member Development Update                        | Member development has become increasingly important in recent years as the Council seeks to ensure elected members have the skills and knowledge to perform their roles as effectively as possible.                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To consider the current provision of member development and offer guidance on its future operation.</li> </ul>  |
| Dual Membership of Local Authorities             | Within Lincolnshire, councillors can be elected to represent both a lower and an upper-tier council, which potentially raises conflicts of interests in considering certain items.                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To note the suggested guidance and recommend its circulation to councillors.</li> </ul>   |
| Individual Electoral Registration                | Individual electoral registration (IER) is being introduced across the country, shifting the process for registering electors from a household to an individual basis.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To consider the manner in which IER is being implemented within Lincoln and the potential impact upon voter registration.</li> </ul>  |
| Work Programme Update                            | The Committee's work programme is agreed on an ongoing basis in consultation with the Chair and the Committee.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To agree the work programme.</li> <li>▪ To consider the arrangements for the next meeting.</li> </ul>   |

**27 October 2014**

| Topic | Matter for Consideration | Outcome |
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| Code of Conduct: Cases Review                      | To examine national developments of relevance to the Members' Code of Conduct.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To note the issues raised and consider a suitable response if required.</li> </ul>                                      |
| Local Democracy Week Review                        | To update members on the events held during Local Democracy Week.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider any positive and negative outcomes from Local Democracy Week with a view to future arrangements.</li> </ul> |
| Polling Station Review                             | To advise on the outcome of the consultation carried out in respect of the Polling District and Places Review and recommend to Council a Schedule of Polling Stations for approval. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To recommend to Council proposals for Polling Districts, Places and Stations for future elections.</li> </ul>           |
| Increasing Democratic Engagement with Young People | The Committee has made particular efforts to engage with young people in recent years and will seek to continue its democratic engagement projects.                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the manner in which the Council engages with young people</li> </ul>  |
| Work Programme Update                              | The Committee's work programme is agreed on an ongoing basis in consultation with the Chair and the Committee.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To agree the work programme.</li> <li>To consider the arrangements for the next meeting.</li> </ul>                     |

### 8 December 2014

| Topic                            | Matter for Consideration   | Outcome   |
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| Code of Conduct: Cases Review    | To examine national developments of relevance to the Members' Code of Conduct.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To note the issues raised and consider a suitable response if required.</li> </ul>                                       |
| Encouraging Electoral Engagement | Turnout in Lincoln's local government elections, in common with many other areas of the country, is often below 30%, meaning that the majority of electors are choosing not to exercise their right to vote, while others entitled to vote may not even be registering to do so. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To examine voter registration and electoral turnout, and to discuss the manner in which this can be improved.</li> </ul> |
| Local Decision-Making            | The Council may appoint area committees as it sees fit, if it is satisfied that to do so will ensure improved service delivery in the context of best value and more efficient,  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To assess whether introducing area committees would improve the operation of the Council and links with</li> </ul>       |

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|                       | transparent and accountable decision making.   | communities.   |
| Work Programme Update | The Committee's work programme is agreed on an ongoing basis in consultation with the Chair and the Committee. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To agree the work programme.</li> <li>▪ To consider the arrangements for the next meeting.</li> </ul> |

## 2 February 2015

| Topic                                      | Matter for Consideration   | Outcome  |
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| Code of Conduct: Cases Review              | To examine national developments of relevance to the Members' Code of Conduct.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To note the issues raised and consider a suitable response if required.</li> </ul>                      |
| Committee Structure and Terms of Reference | The Committee's terms of reference extend to considering the governance of the Council. The Committee is therefore requested to consider whether overall committee structure remains appropriate to the Council's functions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To offer views on the appropriateness of the committee structure for the Council's business.</li> </ul> |
| Petition Scheme Review                     | The Council adopted a petition scheme in April 2010 setting out how petitions will be handled. Since that time, the scheme has not been formally reviewed to assess its effectiveness.                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To consider whether Petition Scheme would benefit from any revisions.</li> </ul>                        |
| Work Programme Update                      | The Committee's work programme is agreed on an ongoing basis in consultation with the Chair and the Committee.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To agree the work programme.</li> <li>▪ To consider the arrangements for the next meeting.</li> </ul>   |

## 23 March 2015

| Topic                         | Matter for Consideration   | Outcome   |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Code of Conduct: Cases Review | To examine national developments of relevance to the Members' Code of Conduct. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To note the issues raised and consider a suitable response if required.</li> </ul> |
| Member Development            | Member development has become increasingly                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To consider the current provision of</li> </ul>                                    |

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| Update                 | important in recent years as the Council seeks to ensure elected members have the skills and knowledge to perform their roles as effectively as possible. | member development and offer guidance on its future operation.   |
| Work Programme 2015/16 | The Committee's work programme is agreed on an ongoing basis in consultation with the Chair and the Committee.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To agree the work programme for 2015/16.</li> <li>▪ To consider the arrangements for the next meeting.</li> </ul> |