

Notice of Standards Committee

Date: Tuesday, 8 July 2025 at 6.00 pm

Venue: HMS Phoebe, BCP Civic Centre, Bournemouth BH2 6DY



Membership:

Chair: to be elected

Vice Chair: to be elected

Cllr V Ricketts
Cllr A Chapmanlaw
Cllr S Armstrong

Cllr E Connolly
Cllr R Pattinson-West
Cllr B Nanovo

Cllr G Wright

Independent persons:

Mr P Cashmore

Mr I Sibley

All Members of the Standards Committee are summoned to attend this meeting to consider the items of business set out on the agenda below.

The press and public are welcome to view the live stream of this meeting at the following link:

<https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=6044>

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Louise Smith on 01202 096660 or email: Louise Smith, louise.smith@bcpCouncil.gov.uk or democratic.services@bcpCouncil.gov.uk

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office: Tel: 01202 118686 or email press.office@bcpCouncil.gov.uk

This notice and all the papers mentioned within it are available at democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk

GRAHAM FARRANT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

30 June 2025

**DEBATE
NOT HATE**



Available online and
on the Mod.gov app



Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

Declaring interests at meetings

Familiarise yourself with the Councillor Code of Conduct which can be found in Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

Before the meeting, read the agenda and reports to see if the matters to be discussed at the meeting concern your interests



What are the principles of bias and pre-determination and how do they affect my participation in the meeting?

Bias and predetermination are common law concepts. If they affect you, your participation in the meeting may call into question the decision arrived at on the item.

Bias Test

In all the circumstances, would it lead a fair minded and informed observer to conclude that there was a real possibility or a real danger that the decision maker was biased?

Predetermination Test

At the time of making the decision, did the decision maker have a closed mind?

If a councillor appears to be biased or to have predetermined their decision, they must NOT participate in the meeting.

For more information or advice please contact the Monitoring Officer
(janie.berry@bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

Selflessness

Councillors should act solely in terms of the public interest

Integrity

Councillors must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships

Objectivity

Councillors must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias

Accountability

Councillors are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this

Openness

Councillors should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing

Honesty & Integrity

Councillors should act with honesty and integrity and should not place themselves in situations where their honesty and integrity may be questioned

Leadership

Councillors should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs

AGENDA

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

1. **Apologies**

To receive any apologies for absence from Members.

2. **Substitute Members**

To receive information on any changes in the membership of the Committee.

Note – When a member of a Committee is unable to attend a meeting of a Committee or Sub-Committee, the relevant Political Group Leader (or their nominated representative) may, by notice to the Monitoring Officer (or their nominated representative) prior to the meeting, appoint a substitute member from within the same Political Group. The contact details on the front of this agenda should be used for notifications.

3. **Election of Chair**

To elect the Chair of the Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2025/26.

4. **Election of Vice Chair**

To elect the Vice Chair of the Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2025/26.

5. **Declarations of Interests**

Councillors are requested to declare any interests on items included in this agenda. Please refer to the workflow on the preceding page for guidance.

Declarations received will be reported at the meeting.

6. **Confirmation of Minutes**

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting held on 29 April 2025.

7. **Public Issues**

To receive any public questions, statements or petitions submitted in accordance with the Constitution, which is available to view at the following link:-

<https://democracy.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=151&Info=1&bcr=1>

The deadline for the submission of public questions is midday on Wednesday 2 July [midday 3 clear working days before the meeting].

The deadline for the submission of a statement is midday on Monday 7 July [midday the working day before the meeting].

The deadline for the submission of a petition is Tuesday 24 June [10

working days before the meeting].

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 8. Annual Report on Code of Conduct Complaints | 15 - 22 |
| <p>This report provides a summary of the complaints received and determined which were made against councillors for alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>The Standards Committee has a duty to consider an annual report and to promote and maintain high standards of conduct.</p> | |
| 9. Code of Conduct Complaints - Review | 23 - 36 |
| <p>This report provides Members with an update on complaints regarding alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct against councillors received or concluded since the last report to the Committee in April 2025.</p> <p>The Committee is responsible for maintaining high standards of conduct by Members of BCP Council and the Town and Parish Councils, monitoring the operation of the Code of Conduct, and considering the outcome of commissioned independent investigations.</p> | |
| 10. Review of the Code of Conduct Complaints Procedure | 37 - 44 |
| <p>The Standards Committee is asked to commence a review of the Procedure for the handling of complaints received under the Code of Conduct.</p> | |
| 11. Councillor Training Update | 45 - 52 |
| <p>This report provides an overview of the training deemed to be essential for all councillors to complete in addition to the Code of Conduct training that all councillors have completed as part of the induction programme.</p> <p>The report provides a breakdown of the completion records for each councillor, although the names of individual councillors have been removed to protect the Council's interests. This will form the baseline for future updates.</p> | |
| 12. Work Plan | 53 - 54 |
| <p>To consider the Committee's Work Plan.</p> | |

No other items of business can be considered unless the Chairman decides the matter is urgent for reasons that must be specified and recorded in the Minutes.