

STANDARDS COMMITTEE



Report subject	Update on the Standards Process Review
Meeting date	7 July 2026
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	To provide the committee with an update regarding the review of the Council's Standards Process.
Recommendations	It is RECOMMENDED that: The committee note the progress of the review and that the completion of the review will be postponed pending the commencement of employment of the Monitoring Officer.
Reason for recommendations	To support the incoming Monitoring Officer to complete the review.
Portfolio Holder(s):	Not applicable
Corporate Director	Aidan Dunn, Chief Executive
Report Authors	Robin Watson, Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer
Wards	Not applicable
Classification	For Information

Background

1. The committee previously agreed that the Monitoring Officer carry out a review of the Standards Process as provided for in the Council's Constitution. The Standards Process was adopted upon the formation of BCP and has not since that time been the subject of a comprehensive review.
2. It is important that the Standards Process is regularly reviewed.
3. The interim Monitoring Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer have carried out a review of the adopted process. Various amendments and additions to the process are to be recommended to the committee for its consideration and agreement.

4. On 4 August 2026 Tim O’Gara commences employment with the Council as Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer. Mr O’Gara has requested that the report to the committee is postponed pending his commencement.
5. The interim Monitoring Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer both support the request of Mr O’Gara.

Options Appraisal

6. As this report notes the progress of the review there are no alternative options available for consideration at this time.

Summary of financial implications

7. There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

Summary of legal implications

8. Section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 places a duty on the Council to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by its members. The Council discharges that duty by adopting a procedure dealing with the conduct that is expected of members of the authority when they are acting in that capacity.
9. In accordance with the Council’s statutory duty, the adopted procedure should be regularly reviewed.

Summary of human resources implications

10. There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

Summary of sustainability impact

11. There are no sustainability impact issues directly arising from this report.

Summary of public health implications

12. There are no public health implications directly arising from this report.

Summary of equality implications

13. There are none directly arising from this report.

Appendices

There are no appendices to this report.

Background Papers

None.