

Question and Answer Session – Leader of the Council and Chief Executive

Standards Committee

Date: 15th January 2018

Author: Director of Law and Democratic Services

Wards: All

Parishes Affected: All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To afford the Standards Committee an opportunity to discuss with the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive matters relating to the Council's ethical governance framework and issues of probity, particularly the Authority's approach to ethical governance and its key priorities in ensuring that high ethical standards continue to be promoted and maintained within the Council.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Welcome this opportunity for discussion with the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive, and to recommend any actions that the Committee feels would support continued improvement in the Council's approach to ethical governance.

3. Detail

- 3.1 The Committee includes in its annual work programme a regular opportunity to discuss the ethical governance of the Council with the Leader and Chief Executive.
- 3.2 As is customary, and as background to this discussion, a copy of the latest Ethical Audit Desktop Analysis, completed in November 2017, is attached at Appendix 1. For the information of the Committee, attached at Appendix 2 is an excerpt from the Minutes of the Standards Committee held on 25th January 2017 showing the details of the last Question and Answer Session with the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 No alternative options are presented.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 There are no specific legal or Human Rights implications arising from this report.
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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Stephen Taylor, 01793 463012, staylor@swindon.gov.uk.

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All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 There are no other implications that have been identified as important for this report.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 A Diversity Impact Assessment has not been completed for this report as it does not recommend a change in Council policy or service.

Risk Management

- 5.5 A risk assessment has not been completed in relation to this report as it does not recommend a change in Council policy or service.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None.

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Ethical Audit Desktop Analysis – November 2017.
- 8.2 Appendix 2 – Excerpt from the Minutes of the Standards Committee held on 25th January 2017.