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| LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN | WARDS: All |
| REPORT TITLE Review of the Member/Officer Protocol | |
| REPORT OF Borough Solicitor | |
| FOR SUBMISSION TO Standards Committee Council | DATE 26 June 2023 17 July 2023 |
| <p>SUMMARY OF REPORT</p> <p>Standards Committee is responsible for promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by councillors. As part of this work, it has responsibility for monitoring and making recommendations to Council for any proposed amendments to protocols and procedures. It is good practice to keep ethical protocols under regular review. Due to the Member/Officer Protocol not having been updated since 2019, the Borough Solicitor has reviewed it and this report proposes minor amendments for consideration by the Committee and referral to Council for agreement.</p> <p>Local Government Act 1972 – Access to Information</p> <p>No documents that require listing have been used in the preparation of this report.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Cheryl Hardman Principal Committee Officer Camden Town Hall Judd Street London WC1H 9JE 020 7974 1619 cheryl.hardman@camden.gov.uk</p> | |
| <p>RECOMMENDATIONS</p> <p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Note and comment on the proposed minor amendments to the Member/Officer Protocol; and ii) Subject to i) above: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Agree the proposed minor amendments as highlighted in the track-changed Protocol at Appendix A; | |

- b) Refer this matter to Council for approval; and
 - c) Recommend to Council that authority be delegated to the Borough Solicitor to make all necessary changes to the Constitution.
- iii) Subject to the Council approving the amended Member/Officer Protocol, request that the Borough Solicitor circulate the final version to all councillors and senior officers.

Council is asked to

- i) Approve the minor amendments to the Member/Officer Protocol as highlighted in the track-changed document at Appendix A; and
- ii) Delegate authority to the Borough Solicitor to make all necessary changes to the Constitution.

Signed:



Borough Solicitor

Date: 7 June 2023

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. Standards Committee is responsible for promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by councillors. As part of this work, it has responsibility for monitoring and making recommendations to Council for any proposed amendments to protocols and procedures. It is good practice to keep ethical protocols under regular review. Due to the Member/Officer Protocol not having been updated since 2019, the Borough Solicitor has reviewed it and this report proposes minor amendments for consideration by the Committee and referral to Council for agreement.

2. Member/Officer Protocol

- 2.1. The Member/Officer Protocol supports the Councillor and Officer Codes of Conduct by providing detail on the respective roles and responsibilities of Members and officers, and defining appropriate working relationships. The Protocol has not been reviewed since 2019. The Borough Solicitor has reviewed the Protocol and is comfortable with the existing text but proposes minor amendments of clarification and to update (for example to include the role of Cabinet Advisers). The track-changed Protocol is attached at Appendix A for the careful consideration by the Committee.

3. Finance Comments of the Executive Director Corporate Services

- 3.1. There are no financial impacts resulting from this report.

4. Legal Comments of the Borough Solicitor

- 4.1. This is a report of the Borough Solicitor and there are no other legal comments.

5. Environmental Implications

- 5.1. There are no environmental implications.

6. Appendices

Appendix A: Member-Officer Protocol (track-changed)

REPORT ENDS