

**DEMOCRACY AND GENERAL  
PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

**19 JUNE 2024**

**Reference from the Audit, Governance and Standards  
Committee – Revised Member Code of Conduct and  
Arrangements for Dealing with Councillor Conduct  
Complaints**

<b>Timetable</b>	
<b><i>Meeting</i></b>	<b><i>Date</i></b>
Audit, Governance and Standards Committee	11 April 2024
Democracy and General Purposes Committee	19 June 2024
Council	17 July 2024

<b>Wards affected</b>	All
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**Executive Summary**

This reference asks the Democracy and General Purposes Committee to assess the changes to the Constitution required arising from the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee recommending the adoption of a revised Member Code of Conduct and revised arrangements for dealing with Councillor conduct complaints to Council.

**This reference makes the following recommendation:**

That the Committee recommend to Council that the Constitution be updated with the revised Member Code of Conduct (Appendix 1) and revised arrangements for dealing with Councillor conduct complaints (Appendix 2)

# Reference from the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee – Revised Member Code of Conduct and Arrangements for Dealing with Councillor Conduct Complaints

## **1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 The Audit, Governance and Standards Committee (AGS), at its meeting held on 11 April 2024, agreed to recommend to the Democracy and General Purposes Committee that the Constitution be updated to give effect to the introduction of a revised Member Code of Conduct (Appendix 1) and revised arrangements for dealing with Councillor conduct complaints (Appendix 2).
- 1.2 Significant changes to the Constitution need to be assessed by Democracy and General Purposes Committee before they are implemented. Given that these are two substantial documents in the Constitution, the Committee are asked to consider the change to the Constitution of the revised Member Code of Conduct (Appendix 1) and revised arrangements for dealing with Councillor conduct complaints (Appendix 2), should Council agree to the changes recommended to them by AGS.
- 1.3 Members will be familiar with the existing Code of Conduct and its position within the Constitution, and these would be updated with the new documents being recommended by AGS to Council.

## **2. APPENDICES**

- 2.1 Appendix 1 – Proposed Updated Maidstone Borough Council Members’ Code of Conduct.
- 2.2 Appendix 2 - Revised Arrangements for Dealing with Councillor Conduct Complaints.

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## **3. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None