

Standards Committee

Thursday, 12 November 2020

Present: Councillor M Rankin (Chair)
Councillors S Graham, Janet Hunter, C Johnson, K Lee,
F Lott and B Pickard

Apologies: Councillors S Brockbank and B Burdis

SC10 /19 Appointment of Substitute Members

There were no substitute members.

SC11 /19 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations reported.

SC12 /19 Minutes

Resolved:

That the minutes of the previous Standards Committee meeting held on 14 November 2019 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

That the minutes of the Standards Sub-committee from 19 December 2019 and 5 March 2020 be noted.

SC13 /19 Standards Annual Report

The Committee considered the Standards Committee draft Annual Report for 2019 -20.

It was noted that the Annual Report would usually be submitted to the Annual Council meeting for information, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic this could not happen.

The report outlined information on complaints received during 2019-20. It was noted that no complaints received during the year had been referred for investigation. The Standards Sub-committee had considered one investigation report that related to a complaint referred for investigation in 2018/19 and had accepted the findings of the investigation officer that no breach of the Code of Conduct had occurred.

The report also set out actions that had been completed against the action plan/work programme prior to March 2020. It was noted that many actions had been completed, including the regional training event that had been held in February at Quadrant. This event had been well attended by representatives from local authorities across the region with positive feedback received.

It was noted that a work programme had not been set for the current municipal year due to the disruption to the meetings programme as a result of the pandemic. It was suggested that a draft work plan looking ahead to 2021-22 be considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

- Resolved:
1. That the draft Annual Report 2019-20 be noted;
 2. That the Head of Law and Governance be authorised to finalise the report in consultation with the Chair of the Standards Committee.