

Mid Devon District Council

Standards Committee

Wednesday, 18 October 2023 at 6.00 pm
Phoenix Chambers, Phoenix House, Tiverton

Next meeting
Wednesday, 7 February 2024 at 6.00 pm

Please Note: This meeting will take place at Phoenix House and members of the Public and Press are able to attend via Teams. If you are intending to attend in person please contact the committee clerk in advance, in order that numbers of people can be appropriately managed in physical meeting rooms.

[To join the meeting online, click here](#)

Membership

Cllr F J Colthorpe
Cllr M Fletcher
Cllr A Glover
Cllr S Keable
Cllr L Knight
Cllr S Robinson
Cllr L Taylor
Cllr N Woollatt
Cllr D Wulff

A G E N D A

Members are reminded of the need to make declarations of interest prior to any discussion which may take place

- 1 **APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**
To receive any apologies for absence and notices of appointment of Substitute Members (if any).
- 2 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**
To receive questions from members of the public and replies thereto.
- 3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT**
To record any interests on agenda matters.

- 4 **MINUTES** (*Pages 5 - 14*)
To consider whether to approve the minutes as a correct record of the meeting held on 21 June 2023.
- 5 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
To receive any announcements the Chairman of the Committee may wish to make.
- 6 **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER FOR 2022/23**
(*Pages 15 - 20*)
To receive the Annual Report of the Monitoring Officer providing the Standards Committee with an overview of the preceding year.
- 7 **RECOMMENDATION G OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP
(COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES)**
As requested at the last meeting and agreed by full Council, the following matter has been referred for further discussion to this meeting:

"The rules on Substitute Members be amended so that trained substitutes may come from any group where there is no other trained Member in the permanent Members' political group."
- 8 **MOTION 577**
As requested at the last meeting and agreed by full Council, the following matter has been referred for further discussion to this meeting:

Motion 577 (A Wilce 16.11.2021):

A Motion to improve public accountability and to address the inequality of rights of Members of the Council, when compared to members of the public.

This Council resolves that:

When an enquiry is made by a Member at any formal meeting (verbally, or in writing) and a substantive answer is not given at that meeting, a written response shall be sent to the enquiring member within 10 days.

Wherever possible, any written questions submitted in the absence of the Member shall be submitted in advance of the meeting, but a failure to do so will not invalidate that enquiry.

A copy of the question(s) and answer(s) will be circulated to members of the committee (or Full Council) and will also be attached to the minutes.
- 9 **UPDATE ON THE BOOK OF MOTIONS**
To receive a verbal update on the Book of Motions.

10 **COMPLAINTS**

To receive a verbal update from the Monitoring Officer with regard to any on-going complaints being dealt with.

11 **IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

To consider items for the next meeting.

Stephen Walford
Chief Executive
Tuesday, 10 October 2023

Meeting Information

From 7 May 2021, the law requires all councils to hold formal meetings in person. The Council will enable all people to continue to participate in meetings via Teams.

If you want to ask a question or speak, email your full name to Committee@middevon.gov.uk by no later than 4pm on the day before the meeting. This will ensure that your name is on the list to speak and will help us ensure that you are not missed. Notification in this way will ensure the meeting runs as smoothly as possible.

Residents, electors or business rate payers of the District may make a statement or shall be entitled to ask questions at a meeting which concerns the Council's powers / duties or which otherwise affects the District. If your question does not relate to an agenda item, the question must be submitted to the Democratic Services Officer two working days before the meeting to give time for a response to be prepared.

Please note that a reasonable amount of hardcopies at the meeting will be available, however this is a limited number. If you are attending the meeting and would like a hardcopy of the agenda we encourage that you notify Democratic Services in advance of the meeting to ensure that a hardcopy is available. Otherwise, copies of the agenda can be found on our website.

If you would like a copy of the Agenda in another format (for example in large print) please contact Sarah Lees on: slees@middevon.gov.uk

Public Wi-Fi is available in all meeting rooms.