

Local Members Interest
N/A

Audit and Standards Committee - Monday 12 October 2020

Parental Leave Policy for Members

Recommendation

I recommend that:

- a. The Parental Leave Policy for Members and accompanying procedure are considered and commented upon by Members of the Audit and Standards Committee.

Report of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills

Summary

What is the Select Committee being asked to do and why?

1. The Audit and Standards Committee are requested to consider and comment upon the Parental Leave Policy for Members and accompanying procedure.

Report

2. The principal aims of the Policy are:
 - a. To provide a positive environment for Members with family responsibilities so that our cross-section of members are representative of our community. Families are at the heart of Staffordshire County Council and as such wishes to champion an environment to support Members.
 - b. This policy offers guiding principles for members to be able to continue to fulfil their role whilst benefiting from Parental Leave.

Link to Strategic Plan

3. Support more families and children to look after themselves, stay safe and well.

Link to Other Overview and Scrutiny Activity

4. In April 2019, a report was presented from County Councillor Sue Woodward. This followed a survey that was sent to female Councillors on gender issues. The recommendation was that a small Working Group of Members be formed to investigate this matter in further detail and report back their findings to the Corporate Review Select Committee:
5. The working group membership included:

- a. Councillor Philip White (Chairman)
- b. Councillor Tina Clements
- c. Councillor Phil Hewitt
- d. Councillor Julia Jessel
- e. Councillor Paul Snape
- f. Councillor Carolyn Trowbridge
- g. Councillor Victoria Wilson
- h. Councillor Susan Woodward

6. In their discussions and supported by officers from Member & Democratic Services and HR, the working group have drafted a Parental Leave Policy for Members and accompanying procedural notes.

List of Background Documents/Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Parental Leave Policy for Members

Appendix 2 – Procedure for Parental Leave Policy for Members

Contact Details

Assistant Director:	Ann-Marie Davidson, County Solicitor
Report Author:	Chris Ebberley
Job Title:	Member and Democratic Services Manager
Telephone No.:	07813 542578
E-Mail Address:	chris.ebberley@staffordshire.gov.uk