

## **Audit and Standards Committee - Tuesday 20 February 2024**

### **Member / Officer Relationships - Update**

#### **Recommendation(s)**

I recommend that:

- a. The Revised Guidance on Member and Officer Relations are published as part of the Constitution.
- b. As these constitute only minor amendments it is recommended that the Monitoring Officer adopts these changes in line with his Statutory Powers.
- c. Once adopted, Member & Democratic Services will deliver an awareness raising campaign to promote the revised Guidance amongst Members and Officers.

**Local Member Interest:** N/A

#### **Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Corporate Services**

### **Report**

#### **Background**

1. In the summer of 2023, Member & Democratic Services convened a working group of members and officers to review the Guidance on Member & Officer Relations.
2. The workshop was well attended and provided useful assurance that the content was generally good but needed some minor amendments.

#### **Main Report**

3. The suggested amendments from the working Group included:
  - a. Clarification on roles of officers and members.
  - b. The management of officers.
  - c. Personal relationships including social media interactions.
  - d. Further sources of information.

4. The redrafted Guidance has been presented at the Corporate Governance Working Group.

### **Equalities Implications**

5. None

### **Legal Implications**

6. None

### **Resource and Value for Money Implications**

7. None

### **Risk Implications**

8. By having a clear set of Guidance on Member Relations improves the working relations and governance arrangements between both groups and reduces the likelihood of complaints being made.

### **Climate Change Implications**

9. None

### **List of Background Documents/Appendices:**

Appendix 1 – Revised Guidance on Member / Officer Relations

### **Contact Details**

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