

CONSTITUTION AND ETHICS COMMITTEE ACTION LOG

MINUTES OF 28 APRIL 2015			
NO.	TITLE OF REPORT / MINUTE AND ACTION REQUESTED	ACTION BY	COMMENTS
1.	MINUTE 57 - ANNUAL REPORT ON WHISTLEBLOWING INCIDENTS		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">It was noted that whilst comparator figures with previous years were not available at the meeting, these could be provided subsequently to the Committee.Members requested that information also be obtained from neighbouring local authorities on the number of whistleblowing reports received annually.With a view to further raising awareness, it was suggested that perhaps the Chief Executive could remind staff of the existence and purpose of the Whistleblowing Policy within his blog.	Quentin Baker/Katy Carson Chief Executive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Post in Chief Executive's Log entitled "Do blow that whistle" on 29 May 2015
2.	MINUTE 58 – OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS 2014		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">It was suggested that any officer decision to dispose of land above £250,000 should be recorded. Reference was made to the desirability of Members being aware of land disposals, particularly in view of their local knowledge of their Division. Members commented on the merit in reviewing the delegation of decisions relating to the disposal of assets. In that context, it was noted that the General Purposes Committee, at its meeting to be held on 19 May 2015, would be considering a report on officer delegations for property decisions. It was accordingly requested that the Committee's comments with respect to the need for	Michelle Rowe	The Chairman of GPC reported the views of Constitution and Ethics Committee at the meeting of GPC on 19 May. The Committee agreed the following "delegations associated with the approval of land and property transactions with a capital value, or a total cumulative revenue value, of between £250,000 and £500,000

	<p>greater transparency about decisions concerning the disposal of property should be conveyed to the General Purposes Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members debated whether the figure of £250,000 was the appropriate materiality level or should be reduced to £50,000. The desirability of minimising the bureaucratic impact of the new duty to record decisions was explained and it was accordingly accepted that the suggested threshold of £250,000 should be adopted and then reviewed again in six months' time in the light of experience. 	Michelle Rowe	will follow the requirements of The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 in order to achieve greater transparency.” Include on Constitution and Ethics Committee agenda plan
3.	MINUTE 60 - QUESTION FROM COUNCIL – THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN COMMITTEES AND FULL COUNCIL		
	In conclusion, the Committee concurred that an information sheet and flowchart should be prepared and circulated to all Councillors outlining the appropriate procedures to be followed in order to request the inclusion of items on committee agenda, submission of motions etc and that appropriate training should be provided for committee spokesmen/women.	Michelle Rowe	Information sheet and flowchart drafted