

Agenda Item 14.

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| TITLE | Standards Committee Annual Report 2022-23 |
| FOR CONSIDERATION BY | Annual Council on 18 May 2023 |
| WARD | None Specific |
| LEAD OFFICER | Monitoring Officer - Andrew Moulton |

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

This is the annual report of the Standards Committee and covers the municipal year 2022/23. The format of the report has been developed to enable the reader to form a view about the effectiveness of the Committee's activities during the year and its oversight of the standards framework within which Wokingham Borough Council operates.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the 2022/23 annual report of the Chair of Standards Committee.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

The Annual Report attached outlines the activities undertaken by the Standards Committee over the past year.

Although there is no legal requirement to prepare a report, it is considered to be good practice to present the report to a public meeting to raise the profile of the work of the Committee.

Background to Annual report of Standards Committee

A report of the activities of the committee for the financial year 2022/23 has been prepared and is included within Appendix 1.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces unprecedented financial pressures as a result of; the longer term impact of the COVID-19 crisis, Brexit, the war in Ukraine and the general economic climate of rising prices and the increasing cost of debt. It is therefore imperative that Council resources are optimised and are focused on the vulnerable and on its highest priorities.

| | How much will it Cost/ (Save) | Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall | Revenue or Capital? |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Current Financial Year (Year 1) | £0 | Yes | Revenue |
| Next Financial Year (Year 2) | £0 | Yes | Revenue |
| Following Financial Year (Year 3) | £0 | Yes | Revenue |

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

None.

Cross-Council Implications

None.

Public Sector Equality Duty

This is an information report – an equalities assessment is not required.

Climate Emergency – This Council has declared a climate emergency and is committed to playing as full a role as possible – leading by example as well as by exhortation – in achieving a carbon neutral Wokingham Borough by 2030

There are no direct implications impacting on the Council's carbon neutral objective.

Reasons for considering the report in Part 2

Not applicable.

List of Background Papers

None.

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