



To be submitted to the Council at its meeting on 15th December 2022

STANDARDS AND ADJUDICATION COMMITTEE

21st September 2022 at 9.30 a.m.

Present: Councillor K. Swinburn (in the Chair)
Councillors Brookes, Callison, Croft (substitute for Abel), Goodwin,
Harness (substitute for Cairns), Lindley and Shutt

Officers in attendance:

- Simon Jones (Assistant Director Law, Governance and Assets (Monitoring Officer))
- Paul Windley (Democratic and Scrutiny Team Manager)
- Rachel Marshall (Executive Member Support Officer)

SA.1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

It was noted that at the Annual General Meeting of the Council held on 26th May, 2022, Councillor K Swinburn had been appointed Chair and Councillor Lindley had been appointed Deputy Chair of this committee for the Municipal Year 2022/2023.

SA.2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Abel and Cairns.

SA.3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received in respect of any item on the agenda for this meeting.

SA.4 STANDARDS AND ADJUDICATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The committee considered a report from the Monitoring Officer, presenting the annual report of the Standards and Adjudication Committee report.

The Chair thanked Mr Wayne Harvie, the Council's Independent Person, for his commitment and support for the work of this committee over the previous year.

RESOLVED – That the Annual Standards and Adjudication Committee Report be approved.

SA.5 STANDING ORDER AMENDMENTS

The committee considered a report from the Monitoring Officer, setting out a proposed amendment to the Council's Standing Orders, as referred by full Council at its annual meeting on 26th May 2022.

The committee discussed the proposal in detail. Concerns were raised about how the business of full Council meetings had shifted away from the consideration of key strategic matters towards the answering of questions, many of which could have been asked at scrutiny meetings. Contrary to that was a view that there was not always the opportunity at scrutiny meetings to get beneath the issues being discussed due to time constraints.

Councillor Lindley noted that there was a standing item on scrutiny panels for questions to portfolio holders and moved that it be recommended to Council that the proposed amendment be adopted. This was seconded by Councillor Brookes.

Councillor Shutt moved an amendment that the questions on scrutiny panel minutes be restricted to one question per Elected Member. This was seconded by Councillor Goodwin.

The amendment was put to the vote but this was lost by two votes to six.

The Chair then put Councillor Lindley's proposal to the vote and this was carried by six votes to two.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL – That the proposed amendment to the Council's Standing Order 10B, as set out in the appendix to the report now submitted, be adopted.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 10.02 a.m.