

MONITORING OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Council - 16 February 2016

Report of Monitoring Officer

Status: For consideration

Also considered by: Standards Committee - 9 February 2016

Key Decision: No

This report supports the Key Aim of effective management of Council resources.

Contact Officer(s) Mrs Christine Nuttall - Chief Officer Legal and Governance

Recommendation to the Standards Committee: That the Monitoring Officer's Annual Report be noted.

Recommendation to Full Council: That the Monitoring Officer's Annual Report be noted.

Reason for recommendation: This report sets out the work of the Monitoring Officer, Standards Committee and other governance arrangements monitored by other committees within the Council thus providing Members and the public with valuable information which should promote Member and Public confidence in the high ethical standards set by the Council.

Introduction and Background

- 1 This is the eleventh Annual Report of the Monitoring Officer as attached as an Appendix to this report.
- 2 The purpose of the Monitoring Officer's Report is to provide an overview of the work of the Monitoring Officer, the work of the Standards Committee and the general governance arrangements within the Council in the past year and to provide an opportunity to review and learn from experience.
- 3 The information contained within this Report will also provide Members of the Standards Committee, with an overview of the workings of the Council thus providing them with valuable information to facilitate the carrying out of their functions.

Substance of Report

- 4 The Monitoring Officer's Report sets out the Monitoring Officer's statutory responsibilities, summarises how these duties have been discharged during

2015 in accordance with the Council's Constitution, legislative requirements and draws attention to those issues that will require attention in the next calendar year.

Key Implications

Financial

- 5 The Monitoring Officer's Report has not identified any financial implications for this Council over and above normal requirements.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

- 6 The Monitoring Officer's Report has not uncovered any illegality.

Equality Assessment

- 7 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Conclusions

- 8 The Monitoring Officer's report sets out the elements of good governance and demonstrates that robust procedures are in place to raise ethical standards, identify problems and ensure that Members, Officers and the Public are aware of appropriate channels to raise concerns.

Appendices

Appendix - Monitoring Officer's Report

Background Papers:

None

Mrs Christine Nuttall
Chief Officer for Legal and Governance