
PROPOSED PROTOCOL FOR MEMBERS ON GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY

Responsible Cabinet Member(s) - Councillor John Williams, Leader

Responsible Director(s) - Paul Wildsmith, Director of Corporate Services

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the adoption of a protocol for Members on gifts and hospitality.

Background

2. A report was presented (**attached as an appendix**) to the Standards Committee of the Council on 11th April, 2005 on a proposed protocol for Members on gifts and hospitality.
3. The Committee approved the draft protocol submitted, requesting officers to consider on-line registration facilities for Members and also to bring the matter specifically to the attention of Parish Councils within the Borough Council area for their consideration.
4. A letter has been sent to the Clerk to each Parish Council, inviting them to bring the matter to the attention of their Council.
5. The Council is now asked to consider the draft protocol with a view to adoption, as supported by the Standards Committee.

Outcome of Consultation

6. This report has not been the subject of formal consultation. A copy has nevertheless been sent to all Parish Councils in the Borough Council area with the agenda for the Standards Committee of 11th April, 2005 (in accordance with normal practice), and their attention will be specifically directed to this matter by the Monitoring Officer at the request of the Standards Committee.

Legal Implications

7. This report has been considered by the Borough Solicitor for legal implications in accordance with the Council's approved procedures. There are no issues which the Borough Solicitor considers need to be brought to the specific attention of Members, other than those highlighted in the report.

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

8. The contents of this report have been considered in the context of the requirements placed on the Council by Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, namely, the duty on the Council to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those

functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area. It is not considered that the contents of this report have any such effect.

Council Policy Framework

9. The issues contained within this report are required to be considered by Council.

Recommendation

10. Council are requested to approve the attached protocol for Members on gifts and hospitality.

Reasons

11. The suggested protocol is put forward to accord with best practice and support the existing provisions of the Code of Conduct for Members.

**Paul Wildsmith,
Director of Corporate Services**

Background Papers

None apart from attachments.

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