

**MINUTES OF THE CONSTITUTION AND ETHICS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT 6:00PM, ON
MONDAY, 29 JULY 2024
BOURGES/VIERSEN, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

To be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting.

[\(Public Pack\)Agenda Constitution and Ethics Committee, 29 July 2024, 6pm \(peterborough.gov.uk\)](#)

Should you wish to listen to the debate had, please visit download the audio recording at:

[Constitution and Ethics Committee - 29 July 2024, 6pm \(audio recording\)](#)

Committee Members Present: Ellis Chairman (Chair), Councillors Jamil, Ray, Farooq, Ayres, Hiller and Hogg.

Officers Present: Neil McArthur, Director of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer
Dan Snowdon, Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager
Matt Makin, Senior Democratic Services Officer
Karen S Dunleavy, Democratic Services Officer

Also in Attendance:

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3. MINUTES OF THE CONSTITUTION AND ETHICS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2024, were agreed as a true and accurate record.

4. PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL: CENTRE FOR GOVERNANCE AND SCRUTINY (CFGS), GOVERNANCE REVIEW UPDATE

Constitution and Ethics Committee considered and **RESOLVED** (Unanimous) to note the report.

AGREED ACTIONS

The Constitution and Ethics Committee noted the report and agreed that:

- I. A pre-scrutiny mechanism of decisions should be explored as part of the Constitution review item on the Committee's work programme.
- II. The Director of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer would provide Members with clarification about whether the responsibility of appointments to interim statutory officer and chief officers posts of the Council, would be the remit of Employment Committee to approve.
- III. A performance target set for the submission of urgent decisions added to the forward plan and late reports for agendas, should be adopted across the Council.

5. Council Finance Regulations – Constitution Update

The Constitution and Ethics Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimous) to recommend the Revised Financial Regulations to Full Council for approval.

AGREED ACTIONS

The Constitution and Ethics Committee agreed that the Service Director- Financial Management & Deputy s151 Officer would:

- I. Evaluate the Financial Regulations in relation to the responsibility of key performance indicators, which had been removed, to ensure it was working; and
- II. Confirm to Members whether a child or parent would receive a compensation payment in child cases.

6.52PM - At this point, Cllr Ray left the meeting.

6. START TIME OF MEETINGS 24/25

The Constitution and Ethics Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimous) to a start time of 6:00pm for 2024/2025 meetings.

7. DISPENSATIONS

The Constitution and Ethics Committee noted there had been no dispensations issued since the last meeting

8. COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT REPORT

The Constitution and Ethics Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimous) to note the complaints received/being handled by the Monitoring Officer since February 2024.

AGREED ACTIONS

The Constitution and Ethics Committee noted the report and agreed that the importance of code of conduct values, would be reiterated within the code of conduct training provided to Councillors by the Monitoring Officer.

9. WORK PROGRAMME

The Constitution and Ethics Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimous) to agree the work programme.

AGREED ACTIONS

The Constitution and Ethics Committee agreed the work programme and that:

- I. The Democratic Services Officer would add an actions tracker item on the Committee's agenda going forward.
- II. The Civic Team would explore the possibility of adding the National Honours list as an exempt item on the Committee's work programme going forward and
- III. The Civic Team would explore the possibility of adding the Mayor eligibility list as an exempt item on the Committee's Work Programme going forward.

CHAIRMAN
End 7.15pm

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