NORWICH
City Council

Standards committee

Date: Tuesday, 10 October 2017
Time: 10:00
Venue: Mancroft room, City Hall, St Peters Street, Norwich, NR2 1NH

Committee members:

Councillors:
Bogelein
Davis
Driver
Grahame
Sands (M)
Thomas (Va)

Co-opted members:
Mr P Franzen
Mr C Thrower

Independent person (ex officio)

For further information please contact:

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Agenda

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1 Appointment of chair
To appoint a chair for the ensuing civic year

2 Appointment of vice chair
To appoint the vice chair for the ensuing civic year

3 Apologies

To receive apologies for absence

4 Declarations of interest

(Please note that it is the responsibility of individual members to declare an interest prior to the item if they arrive late for the meeting)

5 Minutes **3 - 4**
To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2016

6 Monitoring officer update (verbal update)
Purpose - To summarise the key work of the monitoring officer

Date of publication**: Monday, 02 October 2017**

NORWICH
City Council

MINUTES

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

14:10 – 14:40 **1 November 2016**

Present: Councillors Grahame (in the chair for this meeting), Bogelein and Manning, Mr P Franzen (co-opted member) and Mr C Thrower (co-opted member)

Apologies Rachel Crosbie, monitoring officer, Councillors Driver, Button, and Sands (M) and Mr A Roy (independent person)

1. Appointment of chair

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Grahame as chair for this meeting.

2. Declaration of interests

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

RESOLVED to approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2016.

4. Whistleblowing guardians

The democratic services manager presented the report. He said that the Norwich City Council Whistleblowing Policy was only for staff matters and the member code of conduct was to be used for complaints against members.

There was a specific process to be followed if a member of the public lodged a complaint against a councillor.

Peter Franzen said that the NHS had moved away from whistleblowing. Concerns needed to be able to be raised without fear of retribution. He added that the role of the whistleblowing guardian could be of use to councillors who wanted to raise concerns within their group.

The democratic services manager said that this happened organically with councillors approaching him directly in the first instance. His role was only to give advice, after speaking to the democratic services manager; councillors could deal with this issue themselves or make a formal complaint to the monitoring officer.

RESOLVED to:-

1) not include whistleblowing guardians in the member's code of conduct; and

2) ask the democratic services manager to consider formulating guidance for officers and members on who to contact with initial concerns regarding member's conduct.

5. Update on code of conduct complaints

This item was not taken due to the absence of the monitoring officer

CHAIR