

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

CABINET: 25TH APRIL 2022

REFERENCE FROM CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 14TH APRIL 2022

“ LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS (WALES) ACT 2021:
STANDARDS OF CONDUCT STATUTORY GUIDANCE (CX) –

The purpose of the report was to apprise the Committee in respect of Welsh Government's consultation relating to guidance on duties set out under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021. These duties included:

- Promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct
- Co-operation with the Council's Standards Committee
- Providing advice and training
- Making an Annual Report.

The provisions of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (Section 62) provided a new duty on the Leaders of political groups to take steps to promote and maintain high standards of conduct of their members.

The duty recognised that those in positions of leadership and influence within a Principal Council should have responsibility for combating bullying and harassment amongst elected Members and Council staff and must act as a positive role model.

The consultation was launched on 21st February, 2022 and was scheduled to end on 16th May, 2022.

Paragraph 2.2 of the report detailed the questions within the consultation and the suggested responses to the questions by the Monitoring Officer.

Scrutiny Committee, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the suggested response to the consultation relating to the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021: Standards of Conduct Statutory Guidance be noted.

(2) T H A T the suggested response to the consultation relating to the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021: Standards of Conduct Statutory Guidance be forwarded to Cabinet for consideration and thereafter to Welsh Government as part of the consultation process prior to 16th May, 2022.

Reasons for recommendations.

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To apprise Cabinet for its consideration and to respond to the Welsh Government consultation by 16th May, 2022.”