



Report of:	Meeting	Date
Liesl Hadgraft, Monitoring Officer	Standards Committee	18 March 2021

Local Government Association (LGA) Model Code of Conduct update

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To provide an update on the Model Councillor Code of Conduct (MCCC), which has been in development since the Committee on Standards in Public Life (CSPL) published their report in January 2019.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 To provide an update on the current position in respect of the Code of Conduct.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 That members note the MCCC.
- 3.2 Following the Association of Democratic Services Officers (ADSO) webinars on 29 January 2021 and 12 February 2021, the LGA in association with ADSO is creating guidance to go alongside the new code. We are expecting the guidance to be provided by the end of April.

When that guidance and the outcome of the responses to the CSPL local government ethical standards 15 best practice recommendations are available, a further report will be taken to a subsequent meeting of the Standards Committee to propose a working group to review Wyre Council's Code of Conduct in line with the recommendations and consider any possible update.

4. Background

- 4.1 The CSPL review of local government ethical standards published on 30 January 2019 was a major consultation exercise undertaken in the first half of 2018 investigating local government standards. The review was critical of the model codes produced previously by the LGA and the lack of consistency in different councils' Codes of Conduct. The LGA was instructed to develop an updated MCCC.

4.2 The LGA has developed this MCCC in association with key partners and after extensive consultation with the sector, as a template for councils to adopt in whole and/or with local amendments.

4.3 The LGA recommendations do not address sanctions, as any change to enable further sanctions would require a change in legislation. If the government approve additional sanctions, a further review of the Code will be required.

5. Key issues and proposals

5.1 Wyre Council last approved amendments to its own Code of Conduct at its meeting on 14 March 2019 and a revised Code taking effect from 2 May 2019 was included in Part 5.01 of the Constitution.

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	None arising directly from this report.
Legal	Section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 requires that the Council promotes and maintains high standards of conduct by members of the authority and publishes a Code of Conduct. Parish and town councils in the Borough are required either to agree their own code or to adopt Wyre's. The Council must have procedures in place to deal with any breaches of the Code including any alleged breaches of the Code by parish and town councillors.

Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	✓
equality and diversity	✓
sustainability	✓
health and safety	✓

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	✓
climate change	✓
ICT	✓
data protection	✓

Processing Personal Data

In addition to considering data protection along with the other risks/ implications, the report author will need to decide if a 'privacy impact assessment (PIA)' is also required. If the decision(s) recommended in this report will result in the collection and processing of personal data for the first time (i.e. purchase of a new system, a new working arrangement with a third party) a PIA will need to have been completed and signed off by Data Protection Officer before the decision is taken in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

report author	telephone no.	email	date
Duncan Jowitt	01253 887608	duncan.jowitt@wyre.gov.uk	9 March 2021

List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection

List of appendices

LGA Model Code of Conduct