

**REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

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**MEMBERS' GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY REGISTER**

**Reason for this Report**

1. To enable the Committee to consider the gifts and hospitality received by Members which have been registered in accordance with rules set under the Members' Code of Conduct, and to make any appropriate comments or recommendations in this regard.

**Background**

2. The Standards and Ethics Committee's terms of reference include the following:
  - (a) To monitor and scrutinise the ethical standards of the Authority, its Members, employees and any associated providers of the Authority's services, and to report to the Council on any matters of concern.
  - (b) To advise the Council on the content of its Ethical Code and to update the Code as appropriate.
  - (c) To advise the Council on the effective implementation of the Code including such matters as the training of Members and employees on the Code's application."
3. The Members' Code of Conduct requires Members to register the receipt of any gifts, hospitality or other benefits where the value of the item or benefits exceeds an amount determined by the Council from time to time (paragraph 17 of the Code).
4. The Committee has requested regular reports on the registration of gifts and hospitality received by Members. At its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015, the Committee considered gifts and hospitality registered during the period from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 to 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

**Issues**

5. The current threshold for registering the receipt of gifts and hospitality is £25.00, as set out in the Council's Guidance on Hospitality, Gifts and Other Benefits Received by Members – **Appendix A** to this report.
6. The Register of Members' Gifts and Hospitality held by the Democratic Services Manager on behalf of the Monitoring Officer shows the registrations set out in **Appendix B** for the period from 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016.
7. The Committee is invited to review the information presented in **Appendix B** and to make any comments or recommendations it considers appropriate in this regard.

### **Legal Implications**

8. There are no legal implications arising directly from the recommendations of this report.

### **Financial Implications**

9. There are no financial implications arising directly from the recommendations of this report.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee is recommended to:

Note the information supplied at **Appendix B** on the registration of Members' hospitality, gifts and other benefits during the period from 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016, and make any appropriate comments or recommendations in this regard.

**Davina Fiore**

**Director Governance & Legal Services and Monitoring Officer**

21<sup>st</sup> November 2016

### **APPENDICES**

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| Appendix A | Guidance on Hospitality, Gifts and Other Benefits Received by Members (with Members Registration Form)                       |
| Appendix B | Register of Member's Hospitality, Gifts & Other Benefits, 17 <sup>th</sup> September 2015 to 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 |

Background papers

Report to Standards & Ethics Committee, 'Registration of Gifts and Hospitality', 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015