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## REVIEW OF ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Council is currently revising its Constitution and this Committee is invited to comment on those aspects of the document relating to the ethical framework.

### 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Rochford District Council adopted its present Constitution in 2002. The document closely follows the modular draft set out in government guidance issued at that time. As an authority operating alternative arrangements, the Council retains a full committee structure. This has recently been revised following a detailed review of Overview and Scrutiny.
- 2.2 The new arrangements include five policy committees and a number of regulatory committees. The role and composition of the Standards Committee remains unaltered.

### 3 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Members will have received a copy of the revised Constitution under separate cover. Amendments are shown highlighted. Although the Committee is at liberty to comment on any aspect of the Constitution, those parts of the document that should be considered are as follows:-
- Part 2. Article 8 – The Standards Committee
  - Part 4. Local Determination Procedure Rules
  - Part 5. Members' Code of Conduct
  - Part 5. Officers' Code of Conduct

### 4 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 While the Council is free to make amendments to its Constitution, statutory regulations apply to the operation of certain parts including aspects of the Standards Committee.

### 5 PARISH IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Standards Committee may make decisions affecting Parish Councils from time to time.

**6 RECOMMENDATION**

- 6.1 It is proposed that the Committee considers the draft Constitution and **RECOMMENDS** as it deems appropriate to the Policy & Finance Committee.

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**Background Papers:-**

None

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