



Report of: **Director of Law and Governance**

Meeting of	Date	Ward(s)
Council	21 September 2017	All

Delete as appropriate:	Exempt	Non-exempt

Subject: **CONSTITUTION UPDATE**

1. **Synopsis**

- 1.1 This report proposes a change to Part 6 of the Council's Constitution to amend the Islington Code of Conduct for Members to clarify the requirements regarding declaration of Gifts and Hospitality.
- 1.2 The adoption and amendment of a Code of Conduct for Members is a matter reserved for Council.

2. **Recommendations**

- 2.1 To approve the amendments to the Islington Code of Conduct for Members as set out in the attached Appendix.
- 2.2 To authorise the Director of Law and Governance to make any consequential amendments to the Constitution considered necessary.

3. **Background**

- 3.1. The Council's Constitution needs to be updated regularly in order to ensure it reflects changes in legislation and in council policy and to ensure that it remains fit for purpose.
- 3.2. Appendix 1 contains extracts from the Constitution on which proposed changes are marked, by underlining in the case of additions. The main changes proposed are described below.

4. **Main proposed changes**

Part 6: Code of Conduct for Members

- 4.1 The Localism Act 2011 made a number of significant changes to the standards regime, including allowing local authorities to draw up their own Code of Conduct.
- 4.2 The Act also made changes to the nature of the interests Councillors are required to declare. These changes were incorporated into the Islington Code of Conduct for Members, created shortly afterwards.
- 4.3 The proposed changes to the Islington Code of Conduct for Members are to clarify the arrangements for declaring Gifts and Hospitality, to ensure that there is transparency about what should be declared.

5. Implications

Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Legal Implications

- 5.2 Legal implications are contained in the body of the report.

Resident Impact Assessment

- 5.3 The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding. There are no resident impact implications arising directly from this report.

Environmental Implications

- 5.4 There are no environmental implications arising directly from this report.

6. Conclusion and recommendations

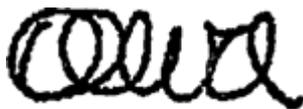
- 6.1 This report is recommended for approval by the Council to provide greater clarity about Gifts and Hospitality declarations for Councillors and members of the public.

Background papers: None.

Appendices: Appendix – Extracts from the Constitution

Final Report Clearance

Signed by



12 September 2017

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Director of Law and Governance

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Date

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