

Appendix G - Amendments to Councillor and Co-opted Member Codes of Conduct

The Councillor and Co-opted Member Codes of Conduct have been reviewed to ensure that they are fit for purpose. In December 2018 Standards Committee considered, and supported the following two changes:

- a) the Codes of Conduct currently make no explicit reference to Councillors' and Co-opted Members' responsibilities in relation to equality and diversity. The majority of other Core Cities make reference to this in their Codes of Conduct. In order to clarify this matter, and underline the importance of equality and diversity to Councillor and Co-opted Members' roles an addition is proposed to the Code of Conduct; and
- b) currently the Codes of Conduct only explicitly require declarations of Other Interests when attending a meeting of the Council and not in relation to Councillors exercising individual decision making powers. While the application to individual decision making is implicit, and a requirement of the Localism Act 2011, the Codes would benefit from clarification on this point.

The proposed amendments are below:

Additional Paragraph 3.3

You must:

promote equality by not discriminating unlawfully against any person, and by treating people with respect, regardless of their age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation

Additional Paragraph 5.2

If you hold individual decision making powers and you have an Other Interest in a matter that you are, or will be, taking a decision on, as soon as you are aware that you have an Interest, you must take no further action in relation to that decision. The only exception to this is any action required to enable someone else to take the decision.