

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

3 March 2008

**Employees' Code of Conduct**

**0.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To update Members on developments regarding the draft Employees' Code of Conduct.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 At their meeting on 1 October 2007, Members of the Standards Committee considered and commented upon a draft Code of Conduct for Employees, proposed to be implemented for the Council pending the arrival of the national model code of conduct for officers.

**3.0 PRESENT POSITION**

- 2.1 The draft Code has been amended in line with Members' comments and a further draft is attached as Appendix 1 to this report, for Members' information. A copy has also been forwarded recently to the Human Resources and Internal Audit teams by way of further consultation.
- 2.2 Since the Committee last considered the draft Employees' Code, the staff union, Unison, has informally raised a query with the Monitoring Officer, on a human rights/privacy basis, regarding the Employees' Register of Interests procedure which is in the course of being implemented. Human Resources will liaise with the union on this issue to resolve it. Although it is not seen as a significant issue, as implementation of the register is well advanced, Members of the Committee will nevertheless be kept updated of developments.
- 2.3 Subject to any further comments from the Committee and/or the other teams mentioned above, the draft Code will ultimately be considered by Management Board and staff representatives.
- 2.4 The Monitoring Officer and the Chairman of the Committee recently attended a meeting of the Northern Secretaries Group, comprising the Monitoring Officers for the North Eastern area. The issue of the national model code of conduct for officers was raised at the meeting and most authorities present have ensured that their current Codes are fit for purpose, but are awaiting the introduction of the national model before undertaking a significant review.
- 2.5 A further report on progress will be brought to Members at the next Committee meeting.

**4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 That progress on the draft Employees' Code of Conduct be noted.

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Background Documents  
None

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