

# Cabinet



Date of meeting:	20 March 2023
Title of Report:	<b>Officer Code of Conduct</b>
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor James Stoneman (Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Governance)
Lead Strategic Director:	Giles Perritt (Assistant Chief Executive)
Author:	Ross Jago, Head of Governance, Performance and Risk
Contact Email:	<a href="mailto:ross.jago@plymouth.gov.uk">ross.jago@plymouth.gov.uk</a>
Your Reference:	OCC/3/23
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

## Purpose of Report

This report follows a request from the Audit and Governance Committee to consider the Officer Code of Conduct.

The Officer Code of Conduct in its current form has been part of the Constitution since its update in 2012. The code is based on the model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Employees published by the then Local Government Management Board and local government associations in 1994. The Plymouth code contained is broadly in line those agreed by other unitary local authorities within our family group.

There is no statutory requirement for an officer code of conduct. Government has consulted on making the Officer Code of Conduct a statutory requirement twice in 2004 and 2008. The Local Government Association has maintained the position that the code should not become a statutory requirement as authorities already have well developed codes of conduct which apply to employees.

The code as it currently appears in the constitution is appended to this report for the benefit of the committee.

## Recommendations and Reasons

The committee is recommended to note-

1. the current Officer Code of Conduct as published within the constitution,
2. that a wider review of the constitution is underway and further reports will be provided to the Audit and Governance Committee concerning any further changes required to the Officer Code of Conduct / Protocol on Member and Officer Relations.



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**Sign off:**

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Giles Perritt, Assistant Chief Executive.

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes

Date agreed: 10/03/2023

