

TERMS OF REFERENCE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The Committee is responsible for:

- Promoting high standards of ethical behaviour by developing, maintaining and monitoring Codes of Conduct for Members of the Council (including co-opted Members and other persons acting in a similar capacity)
- Ensuring that Members receive advice and training as appropriate on the Members Code of Conduct
- Granting dispensations under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 to enable a member or co-opted Member to participate in a meeting of the Authority

The Committee will appoint three ad-hoc sub committees / panels as follows:

Initial Assessment Panel

3 Members plus Independent Person. The panel is responsible for:

- Receiving and determining whether to refer for investigation or other appropriate action, any written complaints regarding alleged misconduct and breach of the Code of Conduct by any Borough Councillor or Town or Parish Councillor within Cheshire East.

Local Resolution Panel

3 Members plus Independent Person. The panel is responsible for:

- The hearing and determination of complaints referred to it by the Initial Assessment Panel that there has been a breach of the Code of Conduct by any Borough Councillor or any Town or Parish Councillor within Cheshire East. The panel will act in consultation with the Independent Person.
- Matters may be referred for external investigation should the panel consider it appropriate due to the complexity of the matter or if serious issues emerge.

Hearing Sub Committee

3 Members plus Independent Person. The sub committee is responsible for:

- Consideration of the written report of the external investigator in relation to a complaint that a Borough Councillor or Town or Parish Council Member has broken the Code of Conduct and the determination of any appropriate action in consultation with the Independent Person.