

REPORT FOR: Pension Board

Date of Meeting: 2 November 2015

Subject: Code of Conduct

Responsible Officer: Dawn Calvert, Director of Finance

Exempt: No

Enclosures: Harrow Council – Code of Conduct for Councillors

Section 1

Summary

As a result of their decision on 25 June 2015 the Members of the Board are advised of the further advice provided by the Council's legal adviser and will be asked to confirm that, as Members of the Board, they will abide by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors

For information

Section 2 – Report

1. At their meeting on 25 June 2015 the Board were advised that their Terms of Reference state that all Members of the Board are expected to act in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors.
2. A copy of the Code is attached.
3. As minuted, the decision of the Board was:

The Board received a report advising of the Code of Conduct for Councillors and asking that Board Members agree to abide by it.

Members of the Board made a number of comments during this item as follows:

- *the legal advice received explaining that Board Members should abide by the Councillors Code of Conduct was required before any formal agreement. This did not seem to accord with the information relating to the establishment of Pension Boards;*
- *practice on this issue seemed to vary nationally and this had not been a requirement for other members on different Pension Boards.*

The Treasury and Pension Fund Manager explained that his legal advice was that the Board were co-optees and that the Code of Conduct should apply.

The Chair asked that the issues raised be investigated and reported back to the Board before any further action.

4. The Council's legal adviser HB Public Law and the Monitoring Officer have been further consulted and have advised that:

The Code is clear that it applies to co-opted members and appointed members

5. Board Members are therefore asked to confirm that they will abide by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name Dawn Calvert



Director of Finance
(Interim)

Date: 22 October 2015

Section 4 - Contact Details

Contact: Ian Talbot, Treasury and Pension Fund Manager
0208 424 1450

Background Papers - None